



# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية - الراي

## Police clash with opposition in Mauritania

**NOUAKCHOTT (R)** — Riot police in the capital of Mauritania fired teargas at protesters who threw stones after an opposition rally, witnesses said. They said several demonstrators from the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), the main opposition party in the country, were injured in the clashes on Thursday. The violence erupted after a rally in Nouakchott's municipal stadium held by the UDF, which alleged fraud last month in parliamentary polls. Militants, who began jeering at police and throwing stones, said they wanted to march on the presidential palace. President Maouya Ould Sid'Ahmad Taya, whose Democratic and Social Republican Party won 67 of the 79 seats in the country's first multi-party elections, has been accused of widening the split between the dominant Moorish community, fair-skinned Arabic-speakers, and black Mauritians.

## Congo holds 3 Israelis with military gear

**BRAZZAVILLE (R)** — Three Israelis arrested at Congo's main airport were carrying bullet-proof jackets, detonators and military radios, Congolese Television said on Saturday. The three men were detained on Thursday night when they arrived on a flight from Lisbon and Paris. The television said Congo police were tipped off by Interpol. Archbishop Ernest Kombo, head of the Central African Country's transitional parliament, said last month that the "losers" in Congo's democratic reforms were hiring mercenaries.

## Iran reports morphine hauls

**NICOSIA (AP)** — Security Forces have seized 8.7 tonnes of morphine and arrested 24 traffickers over the past 12 months in northwestern Iran, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Saturday. The agency said the information was disclosed by Mohammad Ali Aslan-zadeh, commander of West Azerbaijan's police force which carried out the crackdown. Iran has been trying to curb widespread drug abuse for four years. But most of the hauls have been reported in eastern regions bordering Afghanistan and Pakistan. Possessing even small quantities of drugs, with intent to sell, carries a mandatory death sentence under Iranian law.

## Israel, Benin restore diplomatic relations

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — Israel and Benin renewed diplomatic relations Friday making it the 18th African country to restore or form ties with the Jewish state in the past decade, officials said. Benin, like most African nations, cut ties with Israel after the 1973 war in solidarity with the Arab World. Since May, its West African neighbour Nigeria, as well as Angola and the Seychelles established ties with Israel.

## Kurdish rebels kill three in Turkey

**ANKARA (R)** — Kurdish rebels killed three villagers and wounded three others in an overnight attack in southeast Turkey, Anatolia news agency reported on Saturday. The agency said the casualties, including two men in their 60s, occurred when Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) guerrillas raided the village of Kelekci in Diyarbakir province. Government-paid village guards opened fire on the attackers, who escaped. Police detained 14 PKK militants, two of them women, suspected of involvement in July 8 killings of two village guards in the southern city of Adana. They seized seven others in Kahramanmaraş province in the southeast, Anatolia said.

## U.S. delegation to visit Somalia

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A U.S. government delegation will travel to Somalia this weekend to call attention to a massive humanitarian crisis. Tens of thousands of Somalis are believed to have died from malnutrition or factional strife since last November, when clan rivalries left the country without a functioning central government. Leading the U.S. delegation will be Republican Senator Nancy Kassebaum and the head of the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, James Kunder. They will visit Mogadishu, the Somali capital, on Sunday and then travel to a needy area in central Somalia on Monday.

## U.S. gets new aviation chief

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Retired air force general Thomas C. Richards, sworn in Friday as the new chief of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), said he was committed to modernising the nation's air traffic control system. In a brief ceremony, Mr. Richards said the FAA, which oversees domestic and international airlines using U.S. airports, must be "future-directed" to cope with increasing congestion in the aviation system. Mr. Richards is the 12th administrator of the FAA since the agency has established in 1958.

# Baker resumes his peace shuttle today

Combined agency dispatches

**WASHINGTON** — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker prepared to leave Saturday to try to revive stalled Arab-Israeli peace talks after Israel's new government removed some obstacles to peace.

For the globe-trotting dean of American foreign policy, it may be his last trip before the November elections. President George Bush is widely expected to pull Mr. Baker back to the White House to energise his flagging reelection campaign.

The five-day Mid-East trip starting Saturday could provide a suitable crown for Mr. Baker's ceaseless diplomatic efforts. It represents his best chance since post-Gulf war talks began last October for a breakthrough in the Middle East problems.

Israel's new Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has demonstrated a readiness, not seen under years of the former right-wing Likud government, to ease tensions with Palestinians and Arab neighbours.

Mr. Rabin has pledged not to "lose precious time" in negotiating an interim agreement with Palestinians and has set up a meeting Tuesday in Cairo with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

that could give the process a lift.

The last round of Arab-Israeli negotiations was held in Washington three months ago. Rome is the designated site for the talks to resume, but no date has been set.

Mr. Baker's order to slowdown settlements — there are to be no new contracts for Jewish housing on the occupied West Bank and in Gaza — prompting Mr. Mubarak to arrange the summit with Mr. Rabin and could improve Israel's chances of getting U.S. guarantees for \$10 billion in bank loans.

Mr. Baker is likely to take up Israel's long-denied request for U.S. aid with Mr. Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in light of the suspension of new contracts. President Bush has been demanding a halt to settlements in the occupied territories as a precondition to helping Israel borrow the money.

The loans would be used to help absorb tens of thousands of new immigrants. Mr. Bush, seeking reelection, could improve his standing with supporters of Israel by providing the guarantees, and Mr. Rabin's slowdown of the settlements might give him an opening.

A group of 193 House of Representatives, Democrats as well as Republicans,

urged Mr. Bush in a letter to submit a loan guarantee package to Congress and support its enactment this session.

"As a new government forms in Israel, we urge you to use this opportunity to take immediate action to aid the immigrant Jews in Israel who have arrived from the former Soviet Union and to rebuild U.S.-Israeli relations," the letter said.

The possible granting of the loan guarantees to Israel promised no easing of tensions with Syria, however. Its official daily newspaper Tishreen on Saturday called on the United States to refrain from granting the loan guarantees and instead called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories.

It said what was needed from the Rabin government was "an announcement of a total halt to settlement activities and implementation of U.N. resolutions 242 and 338 requiring Israeli withdrawal from all Arab lands occupied in 1967."

In its first week in office, the Rabin government defused a politically charged standoff at the West Bank's largest university on Friday, with the army ending a four-day siege in exchange for six

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# Iraq digs in its heels against U.N. inspection of ministry

**BAGHDAD (R)** — Iraq heaped fresh scorn on U.N. weapons inspectors Saturday and official newspapers defiantly proclaimed that it would not back down in its latest stand-off with the Security Council.

In the latest in a series of street protests, men set ablaze an effigy of U.S. President George Bush in front of cars in which rotating teams of inspectors have been visiting to search the Agriculture Ministry since July 5.

The government newspaper Al Jumhuriyah said U.N. envoy Rolf Ekens, who arrived in Baghdad on Friday to try to break the deadlock, would be unable to win access to the ministry for the inspectors.

"The disillusioned envoy arrives, dreaming of a mission that cannot be negotiated," the newspaper said.

"We will not back down and let the way dogs desecrate the ministry building," it added, quoting Agriculture Minister Abdul Wahab Mahmoud Al Sabagh.

It said the inspectors, who want to search the ministry for documents on Iraq's ballistic missile and other arms programmes, were "infectious rats."

Mr. Ekens, the official in charge of dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction under the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire, is the second U.N. envoy to visit Baghdad to try to win access to the ministry.

Douglas England, head of U.N. field operations in Iraq, arrived last week but failed to make any breakthrough.

The United States and its Western allies in the multinational Gulf war coalition that ejected Iraqi troops from Kuwait last year are considering their response with Washington refusing to rule out military action.

But Iraq says the ministry is a civilian installation and dismissed the inspection as an insult, an infringement of sovereignty and an American-inspired attempt to prevent any lifting of the trade

sanctions imposed after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Al Thawra, the ruling Baath Party newspaper, said Saturday there would be no compromise. "Iraq's stand is firm and the inspection team will not be permitted to search the ministry building," it added, quoting an unidentified official.

Mr. Ekens had talks on Saturday with Iraq's minister of state for foreign affairs, Mohammad Saeed Al Sahaf.

He declined comment afterwards. Earlier, he ruled out any compromise with Iraq. "I'm not here to negotiate," he said on arrival. "I have a message to the Iraqi government."

The inspectors have kept a constant watch on the ministry from U.N. cars since they were first denied access on July 5 — the latest in a series of standoffs over inspection rights.

Spokesmen at the U.S. Defence and State departments have

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## Scottish lawyer elected British Labour leader

**LABOUR (R)** — Britain's Labour Party, still reeling from its fourth successive election defeat, on Saturday elected Scottish lawyer John Smith as its new leader.

Mr. Smith, a 53-year-old bespectacled former finance spokesman, won by an overwhelming 91 per cent of the votes at a special conference of Labour members of parliament, party activists and trade unions who dominate the voting and party finances.

Mr. Smith replaces Neil Kinnock, 50, who quit after the shock April 9 election defeat to the ruling Conservative Party under Prime Minister John Major.

Mr. Smith, a deft power broker, had crucial backing from the unions.

His nearest rival, New Zealand-born intellectual Bryan Gould, won a mere 8.9 per cent of the vote.

The same union power was expected to give Mr. Smith the deputy of his choice — treasury spokeswoman Margaret Beckett replacing veteran Roy Hattersley who resigned with Mr. Kinnock.

Mr. Smith and Ms. Beckett, 49, are expected to keep Labour firmly on course with uncompromising centrist policies rather than a new, more radical agenda.

In nine years Mr. Kinnock brought Labour back from the political graveyard, quelling left-right squabbles, jettisoning hard left anti-nuclear and economic

policies. He tried to turn Labour into a European-style social democratic party but ultimately failed to win over the electorate despite rising unemployment and bankruptcies in the longest recession since World War II.

In an attempt to tap what Mr. Kinnock called a "bedrock of compassion" among the British, Mr. Smith unveiled a package of proposed tax increases — even on modest incomes — to fund welfare and education.

Electors voted with their wallets in the general election.

Mr. Smith, a former barrister, is an incisive debater and should be a tough match for 50-year-old Major.

But behind him Mr. Smith has a divided party and must preside over an election post-mortem.

He must also confront doubts within Labour and outside about whether he is up to the job after a 1988 heart attack. During the leadership campaign he has made a point of taking camera crews along on walks up Scottish peaks.

Mr. Smith, married with three daughters, was educated at Glasgow University and was a lawyer before entering parliament in 1970.

## Cyprus talks seen going well

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — Cypriot President George Vassiliou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş met Friday at a hush, a sign that political talks between representatives from the two sides were going well.

If sufficient progress is made separately with the two sides, then United Nations Secretary General Boutros Ghali plans to arrange face-to-face business sessions between the two leaders at a later date.

After the two-and-a-half hour lunch, Denktaş pronounced it "excellent" and said, "We talked about everything."

Mr. Vassiliou, who emerged later, said, "When you have lunch and you are comfortable, you talk about various issues."

The Cypriot president, asked if he was optimistic about an agreement, said, "I will feel more confident when we sign an agreement."

Because of a news blackout, neither side discussed substance of the discussions.

Francois Giuliani, spokesman for the secretary-general, confirmed the two leaders were lunching with the U.N. chief in his dining room on the 38th floor of U.N. headquarters.

It was their first luncheon together.



A Jordanian plane being loaded with relief supplies for Somali refugees in Yemen.

# Jordan sends supplies to Somali refugees in Yemen

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — Jordan Saturday sent the first Jordanian shipment of food and medical supplies by air to Somali refugees in Yemen and said that a similar shipment would be sent to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

His Majesty King Hussein was at the airport to see off the plane with its crew wishing them success in their humanitarian mission.

The 16 tonnes of medical and food supplies and equipment were donated by the Jordanian Hashemite Charitable Organisation (JHCO), the Health Ministry and the private sector.

Jordan had been seeking the proper channel to send relief supplies to the victims of war in Somalia since last month.

The JHCO said the deteriorat-

ing economic, social and health conditions in Somalia resulting from the civil war and a severe drought have led to starvation and epidemics in the Horn of Africa country.

JHCO Secretary General Abdul Salam Al Abbadi said King Hussein and His Royal Highness Prince Hassan had instructed that relief aid be sent to Somalia.

He said that another plane load of relief supplies would be flown soon to the Bosnia-Herzegovina. On its way back the plane will bring Jordanian citizens and students wishing to return to the Kingdom.

The King voiced deep appreciation of the efforts being exerted by the JHCO.

The organisation has sent

several shipments of relief supplies to Sudan, Bangladesh, Chechen-Ingush and Bosnia Herzegovina.

The food and medical supplies sent Saturday will go to Somali refugees now sheltered in Yemen.

Dr. Abbadi said JHCO was studying the possibility of dispatching relief supplies to Somalia in Somalia itself.

Haider Murad, member of JHCO, said the private sector would spare no effort in responding to the calls of King Hussein and Prince Hassan in extending emergency supplies to the needy.

He issued a strong appeal to the public in Jordan to contribute generously towards this noble cause.

# Expelled Palestinians say they feared massacre at Al Najah

By Ayman Al Safadi

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

**AMMAN** — Six Palestinian students who were expelled from the occupied West Bank on Friday have said that they had agreed to the Israeli authorities' decision to expel them in order to prevent an imminent massacre at Al Najah University in Nablus.

"We were sure at dawn (Friday) that some Israeli military leaders were planning to carry out a massacre and to force their way into the university campus," the six Palestinians said in a joint statement distributed to reporters during a press conference at the Palestine embassy in Amman Saturday.

"This compelled us to make a sacrifice by leaving the campus and accepting to leave our land in protection of 5,000 students (and) employees and to prevent a new massacre against our people," the statement said.

The students said they rejected expulsion as a policy because it is part of Israeli policy of "transfer."

Abdullah Daoud, 30, Nasser Owais, 23, Majed Al Masri, 21,



The six Palestinians who were expelled from the occupied West Bank Friday pose for photographers in Amman Saturday (Photo by Youssef Al 'Arian).

Blal Dweikat, 29, Yasser Al Badawi, 21, and Mohammad Mutayem, 21, were expelled from the West Bank city of Nablus on Friday after Palestinian leaders and Israeli authorities agreed to the expulsion to defuse a four-day confrontation at Al Najah University, the largest Palestinian higher education institution.

Around 2,500 students and staff members who were besieged in the campus by Israeli army for

four days could leave after the compromise solution was reached and Israel lifted a four-day curfew that it had imposed on Nablus.

Israeli soldiers surrounded the university on July 14 when students were holding their first council elections since the eruption of the intifada four and a half years ago. The Israeli army claimed that armed Palestinian

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# FIS lawyers plan to appeal court verdict

**ALGIERS (Agencies)** — Lawyers for Algeria's outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) leaders are to appeal to the supreme court following the fundamentalists' 12-year prison sentences imposed by a military court earlier this week.

The official news agency APS quoted lawyer Ali Yahia Abdul Nour as saying on Saturday the appeal would be lodged before next Wednesday, the deadline for such move.

It did not say whether the appeal was against conviction or sentence.

The principal accused, Abassi Madani and Ali Belhadj who headed the FIS, and their lawyers boycotted the trial.

Mr. Madani and Mr. Belhadj were found guilty on charges including attacking state security, punishable by death. Five other FIS men were jailed for four to six years on lesser charges.

The military prosecutor had asked the court to impose life

sentences on Mr. Madani and Mr. Belhadj and 15 to 20 years for the others.

Earlier on Saturday, APS, quoted a source close to the prosecution at Blida military tribunal as saying it was also "seriously envisaging" appealing to the supreme court following the sentences.

Para-military gendarmes and an armed group fought a gunbattle into a second day in a forest in east Algeria on Saturday, Algiers Radio said.

The fighting, near the mountain village of Djamilia, near Setif, started on Friday. It involved "an unknown armed group," the radio said. No other details were available.

In a separate incident, about 35 kilometres south of Djamilia, gendarmes surprised a hiding fugitive and shot him dead as he tried to flee.

The man was named as "Sheikh Azzedine" and was known as an FIS "activist" the

gendarmes said. Ten of his companions were being hunted.

Security forces seized nine home-made bombs, ammunition, binoculars, and an "Afghan" military uniform in "Sheikh Azzedine's" hideout, said the official news agency APS.

It reported further arrests following clashes after Friday prayers in Algerian towns and cities as FIS supporters tried to demonstrate against the jailing of their leaders.

Five members of the extremist group, Tekfir oual Hidjra, who seek an Islamic state by violence, were also seized in Al Oued on the edge of the Sahara Desert.

They were trying to set fire to a mosque library, APS said.

Protests flared in Oran, Batna, Setif and several neighbourhoods of Algiers, state radio reported.

Several FIS supporters were arrested during the incidents, authorities reported.

Army helicopters flew low over

# Rabin due in Cairo Tuesday

**CAIRO (Agencies)** — President Hosni Mubarak said Saturday that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin will visit Egypt on Tuesday for "several hours" of talks on ways of giving a new impetus to stalled Middle East peace talks.

Mr. Mubarak made Egypt's first official disclosure of the visit at a meeting with Alexandria University faculty and students in the city.

"Rabin is coming to Egypt on Tuesday and will spend several hours with us," Mr. Mubarak said.

Mr. Mubarak noted this was Mr. Rabin's first trip abroad since taking office and said it reflects "appreciation of Egypt's international standing and its role in seeking a Middle East peace settlement."

Earlier Saturday, a government official said that three-way summit talks grouping Mr. Rabin and Mr. Mubarak with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker may be held in Cairo next Wednesday.

The official said Mr. Rabin will arrive Tuesday for "a working visit the duration of which has not been determined."

But Mr. Mubarak's remark that Mr. Rabin will spend only several hours in Cairo appeared to preclude a three-way summit with Mr. Baker unless the secretary changes his itinerary.

Mr. Rabin's spokesman Gad Ben-Ari said earlier the visit was imminent.

"I confirm Rabin is going to Cairo in one of the next days," he said.

Mr. Rabin won power in national elections last month vowing to reach an agreement with Palestinians for self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip within a year.

In a speech to the Knesset on Monday, he offered to visit Arab capitals for negotiations, invited the leaders of Syria, Jordan and Lebanon to occupied Jerusalem and suggested immediate informal talks with Jordanian and Palestinian delegations in the Holy City.

"The negotiations are bilateral but I believe there are parties who can influence the parties talking to us," he told Israel Television last Wednesday. "We must utilise elements that can help the negotiations. I think the United States has a role and I hope the Egyptians can help as well."

The following day, his housing minister, Binyamin Bin Eliezer, ordered a freeze on new contracts for building in the occupied territories.

Mr. Mubarak has met an Israeli prime minister only once since taking office in 1981 after President Anwar Sadat was assassinated. He saw Shimon Peres, now foreign minister, in September 1986 in Alexandria.

His spokesman, Mohammad Abdul Monem, said the atmosphere between the countries had

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Algers after gunfire rang out following weekly prayers in several fundamentalist strongholds, including Bab Al Oued, where at least two people were wounded and one killed.

The crackle of automatic weapons and crash of rifle fire split the night air as FIS supporters maintained their most serious challenge to the authorities in five months.

But their challenge failed to ignite the mass street protests that marked clashes last February and in June 1991.

"The FIS has not been followed," said Le Matin newspaper, echoed by Al Watan. "The street" has not followed.

"People think twice now before rushing out," said one resident.

"They don't want to be shot or sent to the Sahara," he added, referring to internment camps still holding over 4,000 militants despite the release of some 3,000.



## Security Council condemns shooting of guard in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council on Friday deplored the shooting of a U.N. guard in northern Iraq and demanded an end to attacks against U.N. personnel.

The guard, identified as Ravvanna Dakia of Fiji, was shot at close range as he lay in his bed in Dohuk. He was the first guard killed since the world body began a relief effort in Kurdish areas at the end of the Gulf war.

"The council demands that attacks perpetrated against the U.N. guards contingent and other humanitarian personnel deployed in Iraq cease immediately," said the statement read by council President Jose Luis Jesus of Cape Verde.

The shooting on Thursday came after a series of attacks against U.N. personnel in Iraq. A confrontation is continuing between the Security Council and Iraq on weapons inspectors and other issues.

Iraq officials in Baghdad and at the United Nations denied all responsibility, saying the shooting took place in Kurdish areas where the central government had no control.

An Iraqi spokesman said U.S. and British officials and Kurdish guerrilla leader Jalal Talabani, head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, wanted to implicate Iraq in the incidents.

The council was careful not to implicate Iraq and demanded that "maximum cooperation be extended by the authorities in the protection of U.N. personnel and in the implementation of the U.N. humanitarian programme in Iraq."

The attacker was believed armed with a pistol and fled after the shooting. U.N. officials in Iraq and Kurdish police are investigating the killing.

Iraq has mounted an offensive against Security Council resolutions, saying that no matter how much it cooperated in scrapping its weapons of mass destruction, the United States would make sure stringent U.N. sanctions remained intact.

Consequently Baghdad has refused to allow weapons inspectors to search for documents in its agriculture ministry, turned down

U.N. terms for limited oil sales and boycotted meetings of a commission establishing a boundary line between Iraq and Kuwait.

It has also refused to renew an agreement providing for 500 U.N. guards and 600 aid workers to distribute relief supplies throughout the country.

The U.N. guards are lightly armed civilian security personnel who escort food relief convoys. For Iraq they apparently represent a symbol of Baghdad's defeat in the Gulf war and authorities maintain they are no longer needed.

The arrival of the guards in April 1991 permitted allied troops to leave northern Iraq where they had provided emergency aid to Kurdish refugees fleeing troops after they rebelled against Baghdad's rule.

Thursday's shooting follows a grenade attack against a guard residence last week that seriously injured two Austrians. That attack came two days after Danielle Mitterrand, wife of French President Francois Mitterrand, narrowly escaped injury when a bomb exploded near her convoy.

Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, in a letter to the Security Council before the guard was shot on Thursday, warned of increasing dangers facing U.N. personnel in Iraq and outlined all areas of Iraqi non-compliance with council resolutions.

"Accordingly I have considered it appropriate to apprise (the council) of the situation and of the serious implications these developments might have," he added.

The council is also watching a standoff in Baghdad between weapons inspectors and Iraqi authorities. The United States, Britain and France have consulted on what measures to take and are waiting for a report from Rolf Ekeus, head of the special commission in charge of destroying Baghdad's war machine, who is in Baghdad.

Mr. Ekeus is attempting to persuade Iraqi authorities to allow weapons inspectors into the agriculture ministry to search for documents on Iraq's ballistic missiles.

## Woman may get vote, says Afghan prime minister

KABUL (R) — Afghan Prime Minister Ustad Fareed has said that women may get the vote under the new government because the right is consistent with Islamic principles.

"There is a basis for women to vote under Islam," Mr. Fareed told a news conference. "The only difference would be in the ways and means to achieve this goal."

Mr. Fareed said he hoped that when the country drafted a permanent constitution the right of women to vote would be included.

Rebel forces captured Kabul on April 25 and installed a new Islamic government three days later.

Women's economic and political rights in Kabul expanded under successive communist regimes during Afghanistan's bitter 14-year civil war.

But the new government is dominated by Islamic fundamentalists who have banned alcohol and forbidden women to appear in public with their heads uncovered.

There has been widespread concern among educated women in the capital that they would be denied the right to work in government offices or to participate in politics.

Afghanistan's ruling leadership

council has spoken of holding elections, but has neither set a date for the voting nor announced a plan for the balloting.

Mr. Fareed said government security sweeps to remove armed troublemakers from the capital was to resume on Saturday.

Since Kabul fell, the city has been ruled by a patchwork of guerrilla groups and former government soldiers divided by religion, politics and ethnicity.

Ordinary citizens have been victimised by these armed men, who loot, kidnap and even murder with impunity.

Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Masoud identified members of the Hezb-e-Wahdat Part as the next targets of the sweeps.

"They have been given until noon Saturday," Mr. Masoud told reporters. "Then we will know what to do."

Hezb-e-Wahdat is an alliance of eight Shiite Muslim guerrilla groups, mostly ethnic Hazaras from the central highlands.

Its heavily-armed men occupy about 30 per cent of Kabul, mainly in the west and north of the city.

Over the past week, Wahdat and rival Sunni Muslim groups have engaged in firefights and kidnappings across the city.



EXPULSED: Five of the six Palestinians graphed at the King Hussein Bridge late Friday expelled from the occupied West Bank photo- (Photo by Youssef Al 'Alam)

## Economics, emigres seen changing Israeli politics

WASHINGTON (USA) — A new, highly educated sector of the Israeli electorate voting for the first time and mounting economic pressures in Israel are changing the tempo of Israeli politics, a Hebrew University political analyst said Friday.

"This change... which resulted in the election of Labour Party leader Yitzhak Rabin, is a positive development for the peace process," said Dr. Zvi Schulinder, professor of political science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Dr. Schulinder, who has been in the United States for the past month doing political research on the U.S. electoral process, spoke to journalists and scholars in a briefing at the Centre for Policy Analysis on Palestine.

The scholar said that not only U.S. foreign policy decisions but mounting economic pressures in Israel have created a political climate for change in Israel. "The decision by the Bush administration not to give Israel loan guarantees is one of the most important political developments in the Israeli political system last year," Dr. Schulinder noted.

"It's the first time many Israelis were confronted with the necessity of understanding that there is some price to the policies they are implementing in the occupied territories."

"The fact that the administration viewed the settlements as an obstacle for peace was not the real question — insofar as the United States continued to provide the means for the Israeli government to continue its policy of settlements building," he explained.

## Herzog: Turkey could play leading role in peace

ISTANBUL (AP) — President Chaim Herzog of Israel ended his visit to Turkey on Friday saying he hoped the mostly Muslim nation would assume a leading role in the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Herzog visited Turkey to mark the 500th anniversary of the Ottoman empire's granting of refuge to Jews fleeing the Spanish inquisition.

"Turkey is a principal state in the Middle East, for which reason we pay great importance to our relations with this country and are proud of it," Mr. Herzog told reporters after meeting with Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel.

"We discussed peace in the Middle East... and I hope Turkey assumes the leading role in the Middle East peace process," Mr. Demirel said he told Herzog. "The Middle East peace initiative was an opportunity not to be lost."

"The American step was easy to understand for most Russian immigrants — who were the main victims of this policy." He said 50 per cent of Russian emigres who voted for the first time are today unemployed. Many hold advanced degrees and possess highly professional technological skills. He said the remaining 50 per cent are largely underemployed in menial jobs as street sweepers or grocery baggers.

"The majority of Russian emigres are realising that they will not see a world related to their capacities. For them, it was much more clear" (than for other sectors of the electorate).

"For them, it was a question of putting two billion dollars into the construction of settlements in the territories instead of putting this money to work at building a society," he said.

Dr. Schulinder said Mr. Rabin, as a symbolic gesture of commitment to move ahead on Middle East peace talks, has frozen new building contracts and construction, at least temporarily, in the occupied territories.

Asked by Dr. Clovis Maksoud why Mr. Rabin has not used the term "occupied territories" in his statements, Dr. Schulinder said Mr. Rabin "doesn't speak of the occupied territories because he is saying 'this is up for negotiation'."

He would rather the peace talks began last week than this week.

Dr. Schulinder noted, however, that the Labour Party leader "has not frozen housing starts in Jerusalem." He said parties in the process have already agreed to resume peace talks in Rome, but a date has not been set.

Mr. Herzog, the first Israeli president to visit Turkey, was joined by his counterpart Turgut Ozal, cabinet members and leaders of the Jewish community at a gala banquet Thursday night to mark the 500th anniversary.

The party was hosted at Dolmabahce Palace, the home of the last Ottoman sultans.

Praising the peaceful coexistence of Jews with Muslim Turks for five centuries, Mr. Herzog said "I hope this positive rapprochement will be reciprocated by the Arabs as well."

In a videotaped message shown at the banquet, President George Bush said the peaceful coexistence of the Jewish community in Turkey for 500 years was proof in itself that "Muslims and Jews could live together in harmony."

## Sudanese rebels stop refugees fleeing

KAMPALA (R) — Sudanese rebels, hard pressed by a government offensive, are preventing up to 150,000 sacred and hungry refugees from crossing into Uganda to escape fighting in their nine-year-old civil war, aid officials said on Saturday.

One official, who asked not to be identified, said the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) was using the civilian population as a human shield against government attack.

"There are thousands of them out there and the only reason they have not crossed into Uganda is that the SPLA is preventing them," one official told Reuters in Kampala after returning from the area.

Refugees were blocked near the Sudanese towns of Nimule, Kajo Kaji and Yei following the government capture of the rebel headquarters at Torit on Monday, he and other officials said.

Relief officials say the refugees feared army reprisals. Those fleeing Kapoeta said pro-government tribal militias had slaughtered scores of civilians when they entered the town.

The official who did not want his name or that of his relief agency mentioned accused the SPLA of using the civilian population as a human shield. "It's a ruthless tactic that has been used by rebels all over the world," he said.

The SPLA wants autonomy and a secular constitution for the mainly black Christian and animist south after years of what it sees as domination by the Arabised Muslim north.

It has lost 14 towns and villages since the government in March launched its biggest dry season offensive since the war started in 1983.

Some 22,500 refugees, about half of them young boys separated from their parents, flooded into Kenya after the army captured the SPLA-held town of Kapoeta in May.

This week the Khartoum military government, which seized power in 1989, said it would press on with its offensive to capture Kajo Kaji and hunt down SPLA chief John Garang.

The Uganda government and U.N. officials in Kampala say they expected a huge influx of refugees into Uganda following the collapse of Colonel Garang's headquarters at Torit.

"We are preparing for their arrival," one U.N. official said.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iraqi reportedly seeks asylum in Holland

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) reported on Friday that the manager of the Iraqi Airways office in Amsterdam has asked for political asylum shortly after arriving in Holland from Baghdad. KUNA quoted diplomatic sources in the Hague as saying that Mohammad Al Obeidi was at a camp for political refugees in the Netherlands awaiting the response of the authorities to his request. The KUNA report could not be independently confirmed. In January, Iraq's ambassador to the Hague, Safa Saleh Al Falaki, resigned his post and was given permission to stay in the Netherlands. The Dutch government said at the time Mr. Falaki had not asked for asylum but was given a residence permit for humanitarian reasons.

### Shamir asks Bush to commute Pollard sentence

NEW YORK (R) — One of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's last official acts was to ask President George Bush to commute the life sentence of Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard, World Jewish Congress sources said on Friday. The sources said Mr. Shamir, who lost the Israeli general election, sent Mr. Bush a letter just before he left office asking for Mr. Pollard's sentence to be commuted. Mr. Pollard pleaded guilty in 1986 to spying for Israel and was sentenced to life in prison in 1987. He is in solitary confinement at the federal prison in Marion, Illinois, one of America's toughest jails. The Pollard case caused friction between the United States and Israel and Mr. Shamir asked the president for leniency for the self-confessed spy on humanitarian grounds. Mr. Pollard said he acted to help Israel and not hurt the United States when he transferred classified documents to the Jewish state.

### UNICEF says polio eradicated in Morocco

RABAT (R) — Vaccinations have eradicated polio in Morocco and reduced infant deaths by 25 per cent, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) Director-General James Grant said Friday. He told a news conference there had been no polio cases in Morocco for two years. Some 100,000 children under five died of infantile diseases in 1987 but vaccination has reduced the number of deaths by 25,000 a year after five years, he said. "Among infants under one year old, Morocco is more highly immunised than London, New York or Montreal... when I am in the U.S. I tell them: What are you doing, Morocco is way ahead of you," Mr. Grant said. He said the biggest infant killer in Morocco was dehydration caused by diarrhoea which claimed 20,000 lives a year. He said a family planning campaign sponsored by the UNICEF had reduced births by 100,000 a year. Official Moroccan figures put the birthrate at 2.8 per cent for the country's 25 million people.

### International panel criticises Algerian trial

GENEVA (AP) — The International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) has criticised the trial of Algeria's top Muslim fundamentalists, saying it violated both Algerian and international law. A statement from the respected Geneva-based body cited two major flaws in the proceedings — that the trial took place before a military tribunal rather than an ordinary criminal court and that it was conducted behind closed doors. Susan Epstein, an ICJ spokeswoman, said Friday that the organisation was in close contact with defence lawyers who have said they want to appeal against the verdict. Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) President Abassi Madani and vice-president Ali Belhadj were both sentenced to 12-year prison terms for fomenting rebellion against the state. The prosecution had demanded a life sentence. Five other leaders of the banned front also received jail sentences. For the first time ever, the ICJ was refused entry to observe the trial. Ms. Epstein said the organisation had two jurists on standby in case they were allowed in during any appeals procedure. The ICJ is composed of 31 jurists from around the world and frequently sends observers to trials to check on the fairness of court processes.

### U.S. asks court to let extradition stand

CINCINNATI, Ohio (R) — The U.S. Justice Department has asked an appeals court to let stand the extradition of John Demjanjuk to Israel, arguing that an Israeli court is the proper judge of whether he is the Nazi camp guard nicknamed "Ivan the Terrible." The department argued that the appeals court, which ordered both the government and Demjanjuk's lawyers to submit papers after new evidence showed the retired Cleveland carworker might not be Ivan, no longer had jurisdiction. The department argued that the U.S. court no longer has jurisdiction in the 1986 extradition of Demjanjuk as he is no longer a U.S. citizen and is in Israeli custody. Demjanjuk's lawyers in Israel have appealed his 1988 death sentence to Israel's supreme court on the basis of sworn statements from 37 guards from the camp in Treblinka, Poland. The guards' statements, made to Soviet authorities before they were executed, suggested another man, Ivan Marchenko, might be the real "Ivan the Terrible." The Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk has claimed he was a prisoner of war in Poland during the relevant period from 1942 to 1944, after he was captured by the Germans while serving in the Soviet army.

### Greek-Cypriots stage vigil in divided city

NICOSIA (R) — Greek-Cypriots protested against Turkey's occupation of north Cyprus on Friday as leaders of the island's two rival communities held separate talks in New York with U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali. In Nicosia some 200 demonstrators marched to the Ledra Palace checkpoint, the capital's only crossing point between the Greek-Cypriot south and Turkish-Cypriot north. A spokesman for the organisers, the socialist party EdeK, said the demonstrators would stay there until Saturday noon. "The protest marks the anniversary of the Turkish invasion, but is also intended as support for the Greek-Cypriot political leadership in the New York talks," he said. Dr. Ghali resumed separate talks on Wednesday with President George Vassiliou, whose government controls the Greek-Cypriot south and Turkish Cypriot leader Rafi Denktash, who rules the north under protection from the Turkish army. The talks started on the anniversary of a 1974 coup in Nicosia which was orchestrated by the military junta then ruling Greece and provoked an invasion by the Turkish army.

## Iran's security forces put up show of force

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's security forces staged a show of force in several large cities Saturday in the wake of a wave of riots in recent months which have alarmed the government.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said that in Tehran, several officials attended a parade by thousands of paramilitary troops in one of the capital's major squares.

Interior Minister Abdollah Nouri praised the forces for their constant vigilance against drug smugglers and "social vices," and protecting the Islamic republic's borders, the radio reported.

It said similar parades were staged in "many" other cities. Earlier this week, Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, decreed that Saturday be named "security forces' day," to show their "powerful presence."

Saturday's show of strength was seen as a warning to Iranians that any further protests will be ruthlessly crushed, as were the violent anti-government demonstrations in several major cities, including Tehran, Mashhad, Shiraz and Arak throughout June.

The riots marked an end to President Hashemi Rafsanjani's lengthy honeymoon with Iran's increasingly hard-pressed population following his July 1989 election.

The trouble was triggered by growing discontent over economic woes, the slow pace of Mr. Rafsanjani's promised reforms and the government's razing of shantytowns occupied by impoverished squatters around the country.

The unrest follows two years of economic reforms which have spawned high inflation and worsening economic hardship for most of Iran's 58 million people. Hundreds of protesters were reported arrested.

Eight alleged rioters' leaders were hanged last month after riots in the northwestern city of Meshad, in which rampaging protesters torched government buildings and vehicles as well as banks.

The scale of the riots, unprecedented since the 1979 Islamic revolution, severely jolted government of President Rafsanjani.

But it has been determined not to show weakness and has warned that any more disturbance will be dealt with heavily.

Demolition teams are continuing to tear down illegally built shantytowns, undermining Rafsanjani's decision not to be diverted by threats of further trouble.

Mr. Rafsanjani's conservative supporters have blamed the riots on the government's easing of social strictures which have been in place since the revolution.

The conservatives, who swept Mr. Rafsanjani's hardline opponents out of parliament in a landslide victory in general elections held in April and May, have demanded an immediate crackdown on "liberal policies."

The paramilitary "Basij" forces, made up of volunteers, fiercely loyal to the Islamic republic, have been mobilised along with the regular security forces.

Iranian sources say that signals tightening restrictions on personal and press freedoms.

That includes the dress code for women, which bans make-up and requires them to wear head-to-foot gowns known as chadors in public.

The crackdown, ending a period of comparative liberalism since Mr. Rafsanjani was elected in July 1989, is also likely to end tolerance of social interaction between the sexes.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO  
17:30 Michael Vaillant  
17:45 Des Chiffres et Des Lettres  
18:10 La Chance Am Chances  
19:00 News French  
19:15 Magazine E.M.6  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Wings  
21:10 Documentary  
21:30 News in English  
22:30 Midnight Caller

### PRAYER TIMES

04:04 Fajr  
05:36 (Sunrise) Dhuhr  
12:42 Dhuhr  
16:22 'Asr  
19:47 Maghrib  
21:19 'Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish  
Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.  
632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terramata Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 630851

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.  
771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.  
775261  
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751  
Assrian International Church Tel.  
68326  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.  
811295  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-  
Day Saints Tel. 623624, 654992  
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of  
Meteorology.  
Normal summer weather will prevail  
and winds will be northwesterly mod-  
erate. In Aqaba, winds will be north-  
westerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.  
Amman 16 / 30  
Aqaba 24 / 37  
Dahat 15 / 33  
Jordan Valley 22 / 36  
Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-  
man 30, Aqaba 36, Humidity readings

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Ahmad Dababeh 791257  
Dr. Tawfik Qalya 623029  
Dr. Joseph Ishteh 770560  
Dr. Nidal Issa 691011  
Firas pharmacy 661912  
Al Asma pharmacy 778336  
Nasrallah pharmacy 637035  
Al Salem pharmacy 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy 644945  
Shmeissan pharmacy 637660

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ali Samman 623101  
Al Shama pharmacy 275825  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Nashat Amman 660100  
Khalaf pharmacy 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 627111  
Civil Defence Department 661111  
Rescue 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency 199  
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637771  
Fire Brigade 891228  
Blood Bank 775121  
Highway Police 843402  
Traffic Police 863390  
Public Security Department 630221  
Hotel Complaints 605800  
Price Complaints 661176  
Water and Sewerage 897467  
Amman Municipality 767111  
Complaints 767111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121  
Overseas Calls 010230  
Central Amman Telephone 623101  
Rescue 623101  
Abdullah Telephone Repairs 661101  
Jordan Television 773111  
Radio Jordan 774111  
Water Authority 660100  
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/22  
Khaleel Maternity, J. Amn. 642816  
Abdullah Maternity, J. Amn. 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362  
Mehar, J. Amman 636140  
Palestine, Shmeissan 641714  
Shmeissan Hospital 649131  
University Hospital 843945  
Al-Muhammar Hospital 667227/7  
The Islamic, Abdali 641648  
Al-Ahli, Abdali 775111/26  
Italian, Al-Mahajreen 777101/26  
Army, Marha 891611/25  
Queen Alia Hospital 6024050  
Amal Hospital 674133  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)863323  
Zarqa National Hospital (09)803560  
Bin Sina Hospital (09)867132  
Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)890990  
BRIDJ:  
Princess Basma Hospital (02)273353  
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275  
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)274100

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA  
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ARRIVALS  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
(Terminal 1)  
18:00 Jeddah (RJ)  
18:10 Larissa (RJ)  
18:15 Athens (RJ)  
18:30 Damascus (RJ)  
18:35 Frankfurt (RJ)  
18:40 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
18:45 Rome (RJ)  
18:50 Jeddah (RJ)  
19:00 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)  
19:05 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
19:10 Athens (RJ)  
19:15 Cairo (RJ)  
19:20 Riyadh (RJ)  
19:25 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
19:30 New Delhi (RJ)  
19:35 Bangkok (RJ)  
19:40 Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)  
19:45 Sanaa (RJ)  
Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
18:00 Beirut, Rome (AZ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:30 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)  
18:35 Cairo (MS)  
18:40 Moscow (SU)  
18:45 Larnaca (CY)  
21:35 Cairo (MS)

DEPARTURES  
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights  
(Terminal 1)  
06:00 Madinah (RJ)  
07:00 Damascus (RJ)  
07:05 Athens (RJ)  
07:10 Beirut (RJ)  
07:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)  
07:20 Rome (RJ)  
07:25 Jeddah (RJ)  
07:30 Ankara, Istanbul (RJ)  
07:35 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
07:40 Athens (RJ)  
07:45 Cairo (RJ)  
07:50 Riyadh (RJ)  
07:55 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)  
08:00 New Delhi (RJ)  
08:05 Bangkok (RJ)  
08:10 Singapore, Jakarta (RJ)  
08:15 Sanaa (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)  
18:00 Beirut, Rome (AZ)

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in \$/kg per 100  
Apple (red) 300 / 320  
Apricot 400 / 350  
Banana 300 / 450  
Banana (Mekkan) 350 / 300  
Banana 300 / 350  
Cabbage 90 / 40  
Carrot 240 / 200  
Cauliflower 170 / 120  
Cauliflower (large) 70 / 40  
Cauliflower (small) 130 / 80  
Eggplant 150 / 30  
Garlic 400 / 350  
Lemon 700 / 600  
Marrow (large) 120 / 80  
Marrow (small) 220 / 180  
Onion (dry) 130 / 80  
Onion (green) 150 / 100  
Orange 400 / 350  
Peach 300 / 120  
Pear 420 / 350  
Pineapple 200 / 150  
Potato 160 / 100  
Sweet Potato 240 / 180  
Watermelon 80 / 20



## JD150,000 in loans approved

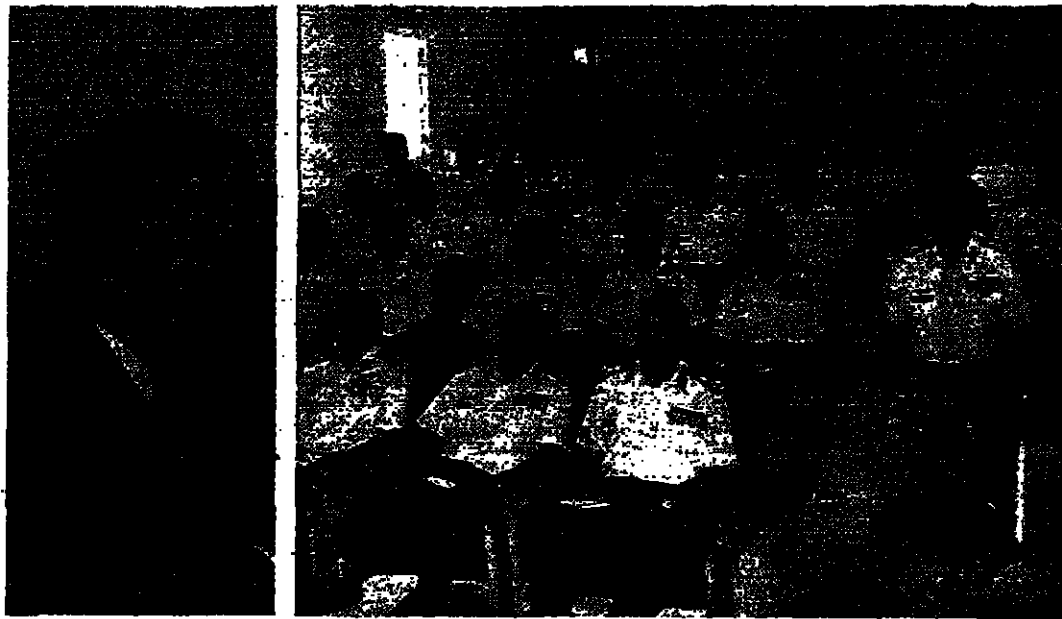
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Development and Employment Fund (DEF) Saturday announced its approval of JD150,000 loans to finance three income-generating projects to be implemented by social and voluntary organisations in Jordan.

According to a statement, the three projects will create 140 jobs and will be located at Zarqa, Jerash and Jabal Taj districts of Amman.

The first of these projects to be carried out in Zarqa aims at helping local poor families increase their income by allowing them to produce items that can be sold in the local markets. Women in these families will be involved in dress-making, tricot and embroidery among other similar kinds of work, which will secure an annual income of JD10,000.

The second project, to be carried out in Jerash, is to be handled by the women's union there. It entails food and dairy processing and packaging and vegetable selling, a project expected to secure a JD6,000 annual income for local inhabitants.

The third project, to be carried out at Jabal Taj district of Amman, entails health services for the local people. The DEF has lately received strong government support in order to initiate plans and programmes to help employ as many people as possible.



Crown Prince Hassan reviews Middle East with airstaff academy

## Prince Hassan reviews region in address

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Saturday delivered an address to the airstaff academy in which he reviewed the different factors affecting the Middle East peace process and Jordan's role and continued efforts to attain a lasting and comprehensive peace.

The Crown Prince also referred to the current situation in the Arab World, noting that Jordan has always sought Arab unity and has always served as a haven for refugees and displaced persons. Jordan has been receiving large numbers of people evicted from their homeland or people displaced from countries where they had been working and living for a long time. Jordan has shouldered humanitarian responsibilities and carried burdens beyond its abilities, said the prince.

Crown Prince Hassan said that Jordan has been cooperating with the United Nations agencies and sharing with the world organisation its responsibilities in providing assistance and help in the implementation of U.N. resolutions.

The Crown Prince noted that the Mediterranean and Middle Eastern zone could follow the model set by the European Con-

ference on Cooperation and Security in establishing stability and paving the ground for fruitful cooperation in the region.

Furthermore, the prince spoke about the reasons causing disputes among Arab states, noting that Jordan currently faces difficulties as a result of its adherence to its principled stand and its insistence to make independent decisions.

At the end of the address, the Crown Prince replied to a number of questions related to Jordan's economic resources, population and other issues.



Sharif Rakan Ghazi

## King condoles Oudeh family

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday visited the family of Mohammad Shaker Oudeh, the Royal Falcons pilot who with teammate Sharif Rakan Ghazi died in a plane crash Thursday during an air show at Amman Marka airport. Prince Hassan also visited the Oudeh family to offer condolences. The deceased, born in 1969 in Amman, had graduated from the Islamic Scientific College in 1987, and then joined the Royal Air Academy. After completing his two-year military service in 1991, he joined the Royal Falcons. Oudeh was buried at the Royal cemetery in Amman.

## Agreement reached to build 550 dunum tourist village at Aqaba

By Elia Nasrallah

AMMAN (J.T.) — A local firm has reached an agreement with the Aqaba Region Authority (ARA) to set up a tourist village (a holiday resort) along the southern beach of the port city of Aqaba to cater to the growing needs of tourists and visitors.

The Jordan Venture Project (JVP) company is to build the village on 550 dunums of land, setting up chalets of various sizes with all means of convenience and facilities, including recreational and sports grounds built to the taste of the visitors, according to the agreement signed Saturday by ARA President Bassam Qaqish and the company's vice chairman of the board, Tayseer Wahbeh.

At the signing ceremony Mr. Qaqish said that the new project was part of a comprehensive plan adopted by ARA to develop Aqaba and to attract more visitors. He said that the project will now be set up at what is known as

Sultan Qaboos district in the port city since the Gulf crisis is over and Aqaba is visited by hundreds of thousands of tourists each year from Jordan and abroad.

Royal Jordanian (RJ) the national airline and the Ministry of Tourism have been active in luring back tourists and a series of measures were conducted to organise trips to the port city by Scandinavian, Spanish, German and other European visitors each year, particularly in winter. Earlier agreements guaranteed weekly visits by Finnish tourists during the winter season.

Reuter has reported that investors were going ahead with plans to expand the resort which has some of the richest marine life and most spectacular coral reefs in the region.

According to Ministry of Tourism estimates, the tourism industry accounts for 10 per cent of the nation's gross national product.

In a statement last year, Mr. Qaqish was quoted as saying that Aqaba was developing the virgin

southern beach where coral reef reserves have been set up.

According to a company official, the multi-million dinar project is expected to be carried out in three stages, with the first one lasting 18 months.

The project, the first of its kind in Aqaba, will create between 200 and 250 chalets within the framework of a village that will have infrastructure and recreational and sports facilities.

The 550 dunum plot along the southern coast of Aqaba was sold by ARA to JVP for the purpose of implementing this vital project, which according to officials, is expected to absorb a greater number of visitors each year.

The company added that the chalets will be offered for sale to the public in a bid to help boost tourism industry and tourism development in the country. The company established in 1989 has been undertaking several major development schemes in the country.



Aerial view of Aqaba where a tourist village is to be built

## Visiting Libyan envoy brings message of appreciation

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Libyan envoy Saturday arrived in Amman by road from Syria on a three-day visit to Jordan. In a statement upon arrival, the envoy, Abdul Razzaq Sousaa, said he was carrying greetings to His Majesty King Hussein from Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi and appreciation to the Jordanian people for their support of Libya in the face of the external threats.

Jordan has always extended a helping hand to the Libyan people and the latest manifestation was represented in a visit by a parliamentary delegation to Tripoli led by Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat to take part in the people's congress, said the envoy.

Mr. Sousaa saluted all the unions and organisations as well as a delegation which visited Libya to express support for the Libyan people, a move deeply appreciated by the Libyan leader and people, he said. Referring to the situation in Libya, the envoy said I would like to reassure the Jordanian public about Libya despite the air embargo imposed on the country and its people, and despite the danger Libya is facing due to the acute shortages in equipment needed for education and health.

The Security Council also asked countries to reduce the



Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat meets visiting Libyan envoy

nological equipment for its development projects and these are in short supply because of the embargo on Libya, said the envoy.

The U.N. air embargo on Libya was clamped last March after Tripoli failed to respond to a U.N. Security Council demand that two Libyans wanted by the United States and Britain for their alleged involvement in getting a bomb on a plane that crashed in Scotland in 1988 be handed over.

The Security Council also asked countries to reduce the

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Special section to monitor urbanisation

TAFLEH (Petra) — The Tafleeh Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Department has created a special section to monitor and control urbanisation at the expense of agricultural lands in the governorate. Department Director Saleh Jaradat said the section will be coordinating with local municipal councils which lack the needed expertise in this field. Mr. Jaradat said the department has launched a campaign aimed at familiarising citizens with the effects of haphazard construction process. Citizens, he said, were urged to expand their buildings vertically instead of horizontally because of agricultural and financial reasons.

### New department to fix prices on equipment

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Fayez Khasawneh Saturday announced the creation of a new department at his ministry to take charge of the task of fixing the prices of equipment used in farm production. The department will also deal with the prices of fertilisers, pesticides and other input materials.

### Khasawneh reviews export problems

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Minister Fayez Khasawneh met Saturday with a number of Jordanian vegetable and fruit exporters to the Arab World and reviewed the problems that impede export operations and solutions that can be found for these problems. The exporters said that exports were still going on but they complained of the low prices offered for their products. Discussion also turned to the prospects of exporting to Eastern European countries. A ministry official said that the Lebanese government has promised to reopen its markets for Jordanian products mainly for melons. In the past week, the Lebanese customs turned away Jordanian trucks with agricultural products.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### JERASH FESTIVAL

- ★ Concert by Lebanese artist Julia Butros at the southern theatre of Jerash — 9 p.m.
- ★ Arabic poetry recital at the Royal Cultural Centre — 5.30 p.m.
- ★ Ballet performance by the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) ballet group at the RCC, Amman — 8 p.m.



Youth Minister Saleh Irshaidat inaugurates youth camp activities

## Minister stresses the role of youth in developing Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Youth Minister Saleh Irshaidat Saturday deputised for Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein in inaugurating Al Hussein Youth Camp activities at Ajloun, attended by young Jordanian women working abroad.

Addressing the ceremony the minister stressed His Majesty King Hussein's keenness on promoting the role of youth. He conveyed to the participating women greetings from the Queen.

The six-day camping activities are attended by 70 women who will be attending seminars, taking part in practical voluntary work in Ajloun district and visiting Jordanian families and touring various economic projects and archaeological sites. The participants will also be meeting with

important Jordanian personalities and officials from the public and private sector.

The minister told the meeting that the youth account for 70 per cent of the Jordanian population and therefore they are at the centre of interest in the socio-economic development process. The minister reviewed programmes and activities being implemented by the youth ministry including the camps in Ajloun and other areas.

He referred to plans for organising a general gathering for youths from the Arab countries to be held in Jordan in the coming month as part of the ministry's main projects.

Irbid governor Fayez Al Abbadi and a host of local notables and members of the public, as well as Ministry of Youth officials, attended the opening ceremony.

## Americans move into embassy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The American embassy moved into its new quarters last week, consolidating its seven separate buildings into one \$47 million complex of Jordan Valley palm trees and office space.

The desert-castle looking complex is larger in area than the previous embassy, but the staff-size remains the same, said Johnathan Owen, counselor of embassy public affairs.

The embassy complex, inaugurated July 4 on the nation's 21st anniversary of independence, includes offices, such as United States Aid (USAID) and United States Information Agency (USIA), a 100-seat waiting room for people applying for visas, a swimming pool, restaurant, mechanical workshops and tennis and basketball courts.

The ambassador's official residence is also inside the compound, said Mr. Owen.

Mr. Owen said he was pleased with the monumental move and said Abdoun was chosen because "it was the only place where they could purchase suitable land."

He added that he did not think the new location would deter visitors or visa-seekers.

But poor public transport to Abdoun could lower the number of about 250 weekly visitors who read books and watch news programmes at the former American Cultural Centre near the Third Circle.

Taxi cabs are scarce and only one bus line serves the area. "One bus line is not enough. People prefer the old location. It's easier to reach," said a centre

employee.

The library, to open next week, has the same number of books but is more spacious, making room for possible expansion. The auditorium also has been enlarged from about 40 seats to 200.

Mr. Owen said the centre also plans to buy a data base for research for library users.

But whether the move to Abdoun will deter visitors or not is too early to tell.

Abdoun is one of Amman's wealthiest suburbs where the cost of one square metre of land in the past two or three years has risen from JD 25 to JD 175. The streets are wide, a new airport road is being developed and even Pizza Hut plans to set up its ovens in the area.

Transportation may soon follow.

"The whole area is coming to life. It has prestige and image. It counts," said Nidal Sandi, an Amman realtor.

As one lone cab driver in the embassy area said, "when the American complex and Abdoun become more settled I plan to hang around."

## RJ "harbouring plans" to expand its operations

By Laney Salisbury  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Cash-strapped Royal Jordanian is "harbouring plans" to spread its wings to Japan and has "hopes" to land in Australia, where there are three RJ booking agents but no flights, said Corporate Affairs Vice President Nisar Aryne.

If inaugurated, the three new routes would tally 47 RJ destinations.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Aryne added that the airline is "bracing itself," however, for a 25 per cent reduction in its services to Saudi Arabia. The Gulf state is one of its more profitable routes.

Mr. Aryne attributed the threat of reduction of five of its 10 Saudi services to politics and traffic.

But part of the loss in revenues brought about by such a move, could be covered by its Yemen route, announced in early July.

"Yemen has a good future since its unification in 1990," Mr. Aryne said, adding that flying to the south peninsula country is part of "RJ's goal to serve all Arab capitals."

With the discovery of oil in southern Yemen and the development of a free trade zone, Mr. Aryne said he believes more businessmen will be interested in visiting and investing in Yemen, populated by 11 million people.

On June 26, the airline began twice weekly non-stop flights to Berlin on its Airbus A310 aircraft. That route complements the four weekly flights between Amman and Frankfurt and is expected to enhance commercial relations between Jordan and the northern and eastern parts of Germany, according to the airline's monthly newsletter.

The Berlin route follows the June 18 launch of flights to Jakarta and last year's Colombo, Sri Lanka, route.

## RJ to fly to Bulgaria

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Bulgaria have reached agreement on organising air transport through Royal Jordanian RJ and the Bulgarian (Bulgarian) airlines.

This was announced here Saturday by Civil Aviation Director General Ahmad Jweiber upon his return from Sofia where he held talks with civil aviation authorities.

The two sides are soon to initial an agreement organising regular flights between Amman and the Bulgarian Capital, said Mr. Jweiber in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Jweiber said he conducted talks with Bulgarian officials on bilateral cooperation in civil aviation.

## CONDOLENCES

George Hawatneh, Abdullah Hamat, Ica Wahbeh deeply mourn the tragic and untimely death of Sharif Rakan Ghazi Nasser and convey their heartfelt condolences to his parents, Sharif Ghazi and Sharifa Huzaimah, and all members of his bereaved family.

May his soul rest in peace.

**RAMADA HOTEL**

7th Circle, Tel: 816722  
825941-PO, Fax: 183494

Amman - Jordan

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## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Established 1975  
جريدة تايملز عربية مستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:  
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Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

### Sunday's Economic Pulse

## Unemployment reduced real wages

Unemployment is obviously a serious economic and social problem. It is the duty of any responsible government to take all possible measures to reduce unemployment to a maximum level of 5 per cent. Five per cent unemployment is considered a natural rate needed to accommodate growth and secure reasonable availability of labour, to cater for new projects and normal turnover of manpower.

However, unemployment higher than 5 per cent has its useful aspects from the macroeconomic viewpoint. In an environment of high unemployment workers are more careful to stay longer in their jobs because they know how difficult it is to find another job. It also makes workers more satisfied with lower wages. Lower wages in turn help the augmentation of domestic investments and make the country more attractive to Arab and foreign investors. With less expensive labour industry, agriculture and services become more feasible and profitable. Domestic products become more competitive in the local market and in foreign markets as well.

In the case of Jordan, the purchasing power of the Jordanian dinar declined substantially after the crisis of 1988 and the creeping devaluation of the currency during 1988 and 1989 by around 50 per cent. This step was unavoidable as part of the

economic adjustment process to revitalise the economy, curb consumption, reduce foreign imports and promote national exports.

Labourers, in particular, and wage-earners, in general, are most sacrificed in this respect. They were and are obliged to accept lower wages due to the high unemployment rate which was and is still prevailing.

Devaluation of any local currency is normally followed by an increase in wages, as happened in most developing countries. This, in effect, neutralises and offsets the impact of devaluation. However, the devaluation of the Jordanian dinar in 1988/1989 did not lead to any major increase in nominal wages and salaries, neither in the public sector nor in the private sector. If we exclude inflation, as measured by the cost of living index, we find that the Jordanian worker and employee accepted lower real wages, thus contributing towards the success of the economic adjustment, but at a high price paid from their standard of living, which was not that high any way.

Available figures and statistics indicate that unemployment in Jordan rose to 16.6 per cent in 1988 and 18.3 per cent in 1989, while the cash wages rose an average by 4.2 per cent in 1988 and another 2.7 per cent in 1989 respectively, while the real wages

actually declined by 22.9 per cent in 1988 and again by 11.1 per cent in 1989.

The above figures and ratios indicate that the standard of living of the Jordanian working class in 1989 was 31.4 per cent below the level of 1987. While the overall decline in the standard of living of the Jordanian people in general dropped by 22.1 per cent only, unemployment was thus responsible for the reduction of real wages in the country at a rate that exceeded what could have taken place due to the economic crisis and the general rise in the cost of living.

This outcome is undesirable from a social point of view, but it was very much needed from an economic point of view. It was a major, albeit involuntary, sacrifice as a price for reforming the economy and achieving a healthier economy that can recover and resume growth.

Economic reform and adjustment are very costly in the short run from a social point of view; nevertheless, it is worth the price if we wanted better future, sustainable growth and a higher degree of economic independence and self-sufficiency.

Putting off reform may prove to be more costly and an invitation to crisis, shortages, higher unemployment and painful drop in the standard of living.

By Dr. Fahd Al Fanek

## Trip could pay

WHEN U.S. Secretary of State James Baker arrives in Israel today he will meet a crowd much different from that he used to meet: Foreign Minister Shimon Peres instead of David Levy, and, more importantly perhaps, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin instead of Yitzhak Shamir. Now that a major stumbling block, in the path of the peace process, namely Shamir and his Likud bloc, is removed from the scene, Baker could work on removing other obstacles that impede progress and limit the scope of the hoped-for settlement which should be based on the U.S.-backed principle of "land for peace." Shamir has himself admitted that he wanted to drag on the talks while continuing to settle the occupied territories, creating in 10 years or so a fact on the ground that would sabotage the concept of land for peace. Now, the new Israeli prime minister has committed his government to granting the Palestinians self-rule in less than a year and has also expressed his willingness to negotiate land for peace.

The change in the Israeli political scene, for which the Bush administration takes some credit, must be very rewarding for U.S. policies in the region and especially for Baker's efforts. However, the secretary of state must remember that despite the change in the Israeli government, no actual progress has been made yet in the peace process itself. Arabs and Palestinians are very apprehensive. They fear that the change in Israel might only help mend U.S.-Israeli bridges at the expense of the Arab side. For us to drop our apprehensions, Israel needs to show some deeds rather than just issue policy statements. One area where the Israelis could demonstrate their good intentions is the issue of settlements. While hearing encouraging, but conflicting, reports on halting part of settlement building, the Palestinians and the Arabs would find it extremely difficult to deal extremely positively with the peace talks if Jewish settlement activity is not halted altogether. And this is probably where Mr. Baker can be most constructive and useful. This is because the Rabin government as well as the Bush administration would both want to score, each for its own reasons, on the issue of the \$10 billion loan guarantees that the U.S. denied the Shamir government. At the time the U.S. froze talks with Israel over the loan issue, it was over Israel's refusal to commit itself to halting settlement which the U.S. considered to be a major obstacle to peace. A total halt of settlements would therefore be both a boost for the peace process and a major bloc in confidence-building between the two parties.

We are sure that if Baker could secure a halt to settlement building before he leaves Israel for Damascus Monday he would find Arab parties in a more comfortable position and confident enough to listen better to what he has to say and propose.

In his inaugural address to the Knesset last Monday, Rabin warned the Arabs that there is no one victor in wars but two in peace. That could be most true for an Israel that could gain the most from peace. For that Israel must always make the first step.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Saturday discussed the coming visit to the Middle East region by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and said that on the face of it the tour aims to give impetus to the Middle East peace process. But in fact Washington is concerned to boost the image of the Bush administration in the current presidential campaign through achieving a breakthrough in the Arab-Israeli negotiations, said the paper. Any breakthrough in this respect can only give Mr. Bush an edge over his opponents in the campaign, said the daily. The paper said reports indicate that Mr. Baker is coming to discuss the question of granting Israel a \$10 billion loan guarantee as a reward for choosing the Labour government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to run the affairs of Israel. Mr. Baker should be reminded that Israel's decision to freeze part of the settlements can by no means achieve any result and can never give impetus to the peace process, for this announcement Mr. Rabin and his government should not be rewarded by the loan guarantees, the paper warned. It said that the Rabin government has not yet explicitly announced Israel's intention of pulling out of the occupied lands in implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and has not recognised the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland. It is true that the Arab-Israeli conflict is becoming a catalyst in the presidential elections, but Washington should handle the issue carefully and in a balanced manner so that it does not damage the peace process, called the paper. It said that the building of peace requires respect for the international legitimacy and implementation of U.N. resolutions in full. The paper said that no reward should be given to Israel unless it abides by the requirements of peace, not by mere words but by deed.

SAWT AL SHAAB daily said that Mr. Rabin's success and his formation of a government in Israel have no doubt quickened Mr. Baker's visit to the region. Washington has waited for this moment in order to use Mr. Rabin as a means for stimulating the deadlocked Middle East peace process because such a move can brighten the Bush administration's image before the world and gain the American president some credibility in the eyes of the American voters, said the daily. The paper said that Mr. Baker is certain to demand the Zionist lobby in the U.S. to support President Bush and this request would not be without a price. The paper said that Mr. Rabin would certainly demand the loan guarantees and support for his policies from the U.S. administration. The coming days will expose the truth about the U.S. intentions and will reveal whether the U.S. administration in a position to demand that Israel implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from Arab lands occupied since 1967 and the exchange of land for peace with the Arab countries, the paper said. What the Arabs expect from Mr. Baker in his coming tour is a serious effort to force Israel to comply with the requirements of permanent peace, based on justice, regardless of any other consideration, said the daily.

## A nuclear dilemma looms for peace-prone Israel

By Enrico Jaccia

ROME — The big test for current Israeli strategic thinking may come soon. It is an issue inextricably linked to the peace process and to the new government's line both in foreign policy and in military doctrine. Yet the issue was not raised in the recent election campaign, nor is it being publicly discussed now.

Possession of a formidable nuclear force is central to Israel's strategic thinking. In conversations with political and military leaders in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, I was struck by the fact that very few seem to be prepared to renounce that force. But is Israel's possession of the bomb compatible with a Middle East peace settlement?

More concretely, how can an Israeli government realistically believe that it will be able to maintain a nuclear arsenal in the Middle East unchallenged for years, when startling reports of nuclear weapons transfers from the former Soviet Union have been circulating for months? When the effective control of nuclear materials in the republics of the former Soviet Union raises many uncertainties? When the brain drain of abysmally low-paid weapons experts from the Eastern countries increases dramatically the risk of proliferation?

Israeli strategic thinking has relied on the nuclear "force de frappe" since it became evident to military leaders several years ago that the country had reached

the limit of quantitative growth in its military forces. Manpower is an insuperable constraint. Moreover, massive selling of conventional military hardware by the successor states of the former Soviet Union and by former East bloc countries has convinced Israelis of the futility of any effort to compete with the Arabs in a conventional arms race.

Having realised that, Israel also decided that an extension of the arms race to the area of nuclear weapons was incompatible with its security. So an Israeli air raid destroyed the Iraqi Osirak reactor.

Ignoring international criticism, Israel could hold to such a posture as long as the Arab states had an indisputably hostile atti-

tude. And now? While the peace process develops, those states could give further impetus to their civilian nuclear energy programmes. That, in time, would confer the capability to produce nuclear bombs. (A nuclear plant, by burning its fuel, produces electricity but also plutonium that can be reprocessed for nuclear weapons).

In recent years, Israel has considered interfering with Arab nuclear plans through clandestine sabotage operations. That can hardly be an option any more. Even less could Israel act against a civilian nuclear reactor of an Arab country while negotiating a peace treaty with it.

A way out could be the establishment of a Nuclear Weapons

Free Zone in the Middle East — an idea that has many supporters among Israeli strategists. The Israelis, however, would accept the establishment of such a zone only if mutual inspection procedures were adopted.

They want to be sure. They stress the uselessness of IAEA inspection that let the Iraqis begin building their nuclear military potential undisturbed. They advocate serious, intrusive inspection on neighbours' territory, the kind the United States carries out in the former Soviet Union. (American inspector teams, for instance, are permanently located near a major missile factory in the Ural).

This is precisely the difficulty. Such intrusive measures can be

taken when there is a degree of reciprocal confidence — at the end of a peace process, not before.

In sum, the Israelis want peace and security. Peace may be possible and bring security, but it could be a long process. Meanwhile, if proliferation spreads to the Middle East, the Israeli nuclear arsenal will lose the absolute power of deterrence that it possesses now. Bombing a neighbour's attempts to go nuclear, it is generally admitted, is no longer an option. Thus, the capacity of guaranteeing security with a nuclear strike force fades away.

No wonder nobody dared raise the nuclear dilemma in the election campaign — International Herald Tribune.

## Security and cooperation in the Middle East — a proposal

By Yezid Sayigh

Although the marked instability of the modern Middle East owes much to the legacy of Western colonialism and to the Palestinian and Arab-Israeli conflicts, its sources are in fact more varied and complex. The list is long: ethnic and national feuds, religious fundamentalism, political or territorial disputes, competition for resources, social and economic disparities, and the lack of legitimacy of governments and of the nation-state system itself.

The consequences have been all too apparent. Besides the bloodshed of the Palestinian-Israeli and Arab-Israeli conflicts, the region has been riven by wars in Iran and Iraq, the Horn of Africa, the Western Sahara, Chad and Kuwait. Horrific civil strife has also been a norm: the Lebanese and Sudanese civil wars, incipient violence in Algeria, the Kurdish insurrections in Turkey, Iraq and Iran. Further afield, confused security relations between the former Soviet republics, infighting in Afghanistan, and potential Turkish-Iranian rivalry in the Caucasus and Central Asia are set to impinge increasingly on Middle East stability.

The pattern of conflict has led to the militarisation of societies and economies throughout the Middle East, and to the acquisition of large conventional arsenals and, in certain critical cases, to the proliferation of non-conventional weapons. This has been fuelled actively by external powers, which have responded to the high "permeability" of the Middle East strategic system, bedevilled as it is by the complexity of sources of conflict and the multiplicity of local actors. The same factors have also created numerous linkages throughout the region, destabilising the strategic balance in any part of it whenever changes take place elsewhere in the system.

This inherent complexity makes it necessary to consolidate any resolution of the Palestine and Arab-Israeli conflicts by stabilising the wider regional context. One way would be to establish a wide regional body modelled on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), to manage the military, political and strategic dimensions of an Arab-Israeli peace.

### Constructing the CSCME

The "Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Middle East" (CSCME) would include all members of the League of Arab States (including the Palestinian state), as well as Israel, Iran and Turkey. It could be further expanded to bring in Ethiopia, Afghanistan and — given its proximity and special security problems arising from its partition and the presence of Turkish and British forces — Cyprus. The Central Asian republics of the former USSR might also participate, as full members of observers, depending on their status in

collective agencies that might emerge in the future under Russian, Turkish or Iranian auspices.

In general, the fundamental criteria for inclusion would be geographical location and patterns of security relations, as well as shared concerns such as water, oil or access. Given their global role and close security relations with countries in the Middle East, the five Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council could also be granted observer status in the CSCME. This would have the added advantage of involving the United Nations directly in the work of the CSCME, which role could then be replicated in the various committees and agencies to be formed within it.

The CSCME would act as a multilateral forum covering the entire region, to discuss and agree shared guidelines on several "baskets" of issues, principally security, economic development, water and other natural resources, environment and human rights. Membership would depend on acceptance of certain basic principles such as the peaceful resolution of disputes, respect for internationally recognised borders and the territorial integrity of states, inadmissibility of acquiring territory by force, non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other states, and recognition of the equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

Formal diplomatic recognition between members would not be a prerequisite for joining the CSCME, nor would they have to relinquish any existing claims or demands, thus making it more possible for protagonists, especially in the Arab-Israeli conflict, to attend the same forum. Nonetheless, all members should be willing to endorse such international documents as the U.N. Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and specific U.N. resolutions related directly to the region, such as Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

### The broad agenda

Initially, the purpose of the CSCME members would be to identify and agree the distinct categories into which the main threats and concerns affecting the region should be divided. Each could then be discussed in greater detail by special committees, backed by technical sub-committees and specialised agencies as appropriate, composed of delegates representing those full members most interested.

This structure would have the added advantage of allowing CSCME observers or even non-members to take an active part, by including them in the debate on specific issues of concern to them within each committee or technical sub-committee. In adopting a more flexible notion of membership, as well as in its designation of categories, the CSCME would again diverge

from its European model and so adapt better to the greater diversity of countries, concerns and cultures in the extended Middle East.

The other main advantage of the CSCME is that it would develop those dimensions that underlie (or undermine) security, in the deeper, broader sense of the word. Security, whether domestic or external, national or regional, is an integral concept based on political, economic and

social components: scarcity of resources, such as water, or environmental problems can be as threatening to real security as military challenges. There can be little doubt that resolution of the Palestine and Arab-Israeli conflicts depends on a combination

of political and territorial concessions and military arrangements, but addressing the other causes of instability in the region would weaken the agents of renewed conflict and offer incentives for regional cooperation.



of political and territorial concessions and military arrangements, but addressing the other causes of instability in the region would weaken the agents of renewed conflict and offer incentives for regional cooperation.

"I am apposed to the conservative religious establishment which sees the woman as an object to be fruitful and multiply, which is xenophobic, afraid of progress, culture, science and even afraid to talk about evolution."

In terms of securing an Arab-Israeli peace, the CSCME would

fulfil two functions in this respect. On the one hand, it would allow individual states or sub-regional blocs to engage parties in other "security complexes" in the Middle East, with which they might, not normally be in contact, in order to discuss issues of common concern. The size of the group would be smaller than interna-

On the other hand, once measures had been agreed or an Arab-Israeli peace concluded, the CSCME framework would provide for joint supervision and subsequent revision (when made necessary by technological or political developments) of regional security agreements. In particular, it would oversee and verify elimination of non-conventional weapons in the Middle East and establish information collection and distribution centres. The same forum could adopt general guidelines on the uses of space, both for monitoring and for non-military purposes, and present a local counterpart in the interpretation and implementation of measures designed to curb the conventional arms race, such as the U.N. international register. In fact, this monitoring role would be one of the chief functions of the CSCME and is a principal aspect of the European body on which it is modelled.

The objection may well be made that the proposed CSCME is merely a conceptual model, relevant only to academics and arm-chair strategists. There is tangible evidence, however, that it is quite feasible.

Pipedream or possibility? The Middle East multilateral peace talks launched in Moscow

In the first place, defining the CSCME now sets a clearer context for the Arab-Israeli negotiations and allows better correlation of means and aims. Current experience shows, moreover, that institutionalisation of the multilateral talks is both possible and desirable, in order to create an in-built momentum and establish the mechanism by which the local parties can themselves develop shared principles and supervise implementation of agreements. It also stresses the need to expand the brief of the existing multilateral working groups to include human rights and issues of political liberalisation, in order to develop the necessary roots of long-term stability.

Secondly, by setting the Arab-Israeli negotiations in wider scope and offering a vision of what the final settlement might look like, it becomes easier to persuade the protagonists to make necessary concessions and to accept certain asymmetries, because they are assured of an exchange and that their core claims and concerns will be squarely addressed. Indeed, this elaboration of a final "package deal" forms the link that is missing between the agendas for the multilateral and bilateral peace talks, without which a real breakthrough is unlikely. Trade-offs are the key to a successful outcome of negotiations, but without a sense of the wider context and an assurance of mutuality and reciprocity, willing compromise becomes impossible and lasting peace unattainable.

In short, the proposed structure can be woven into the pre-settlement phase of negotiations. In turn, the negotiations can be deliberately structured to lead to the formation of the CSCME in the post-settlement phase. A historic "window of opportunity" to establish peace and security for all in the region exists, opened by the dramatic changes since 1989 and the Gulf conflict of 1990-91. It must be seized in order to achieve a comprehensive compromise and create viable collective security agencies, or else the Middle East will emerge from the current transition. In the international system only to suffer further bloodshed and impoverishment.

Dr. Yezid Sayigh is a research graduate at St. Anthony's College, Oxford. The above article is reprinted from Middle East International.



## Palestinians feared 'massacre'

(Continued from page 1)

activists wanted by the occupation forces were hiding on campus and influencing the elections. The six expelled Palestinian students, all from refugee camps around Nablus, rejected Israeli claims as untrue and said they were never summoned by the military governor of the occupied territories.

"We were stunned when the occupation authorities claimed we are outlaws and armed and that we were wanted by the authorities," the statement said. Those claims are "simply lame excuses," the statement said.

The students also denied reports in local newspapers that they were members of the militant Black Panthers group.

During the four-day stand-off, Israel presented Palestinian leaders negotiating an end to the crisis with the names of 19 people it claimed were on campus. The Palestinian deportees said that only six of the people mentioned in the list were students and were presented in the university.

The students claimed that there were cases of abortion and exhaustion resulting from the unavailability of food and medicine which Israel prevented from entering the university during the siege.

The six Palestinians crossed King Hussein Bridge to Jordan Friday evening after briefly meeting with their families on the bridge.

Before they were handed to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), they had to sign a guarantee stating that they will not go back to the West Bank for three years and that they will not engage in any activities that pose a threat to Israel during their exile. If Israel decides that any of the six violated the terms of the guarantee, he could be put on trial by Israeli authorities upon his return. They were not instructed not to meet with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials.

At the press conference in Amman, Mr. Daoud said he did not believe the change in the Israeli government and the pledges by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to pursue peace would have restrained the occupation authorities from attacking the campus. He said he also believed international pressure would not have stopped Israel from attacking the students. "Rabin is the

initiator of the bone-breaking policies," he said recalling the days when the present Israeli prime minister served as defence minister in 1988.

"We came to the realisation that no change had occurred (in Israeli policies)," the statement said. "In essence, the same strategies and practices carried out by Shamir and his government are being implemented under Rabin," it added.

Speaking for his fellow students, Mr. Daoud said that they were still discussing the possibility of bringing up the issue of their expulsion with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker through the Palestinian negotiating team to the bilateral peace talks with Israel during his coming visit to the region this week.

Mr. Baker will be visiting the area this week to "get the ball rolling" in the Arab-Israeli peace talks, which have thus far failed to produce any tangible results. News reports have said that Washington had urged the Palestinians and Israelis to resolve the stand-off at Al Najah University.

The six students supported the Martyr Bloc at the students elections at Al Najah University. Mr. Daoud said the elections were taking place in a purely democratic fashion and in accordance with the by-laws of the university.

The Martyr Bloc was running on a political platform which supports the PLO and its political line, said Mr. Daoud who wore Palestinian kumfiyah around his neck and a white T-shirt with the emblem of the Martyr Bloc printed on it, the rest of his colleagues.

The Palestinians said they hoped Israel would reverse its decision and allow them to go back to their families as soon as possible.

They said in their joint statement that they "hope Rabin's government will be armed with the sufficient courage to cancel the deportation policy and to allow for the return of all deportees."

Mr. Daoud, the only married person among the six, said that he and his colleagues will share an apartment in Amman and see if they can continue their education in Jordan.

Noting that Mr. Rabin had said that he wanted to reduce the enmity between the Arabs and Israelis, the statement asked: "Is expulsion a form of enmity reduction?"

## Perot spins campaign world around again

By Michael Posner  
Reuters

NEW YORK — Ross Perot, whose maverick presidential campaign turned the political world upside down, has spun it on its head once again, leaving political analysts wondering if he helped Democrats or Republicans by quitting.

His embryonic independent challenge stunned the political establishment and put him ahead of Republican President George Bush and Democrat Bill Clinton in polls earlier this month.

But now, the billionaire Texan has done it again, this time with his surprise announcement that his bid would go no further. He concluded that he could not win — and that to continue would only delay a solution to the nation's problems.

Why the change in course? "The overriding change," he told a news conference, "was the revitalisation of the Democratic Party."

Read that as the revitalisation

of Mr. Clinton, who was in third place just a month ago, but now leads Mr. Bush by 29 points in one poll released on Thursday night.

But Mr. Perot's announcement stole the show ahead of Mr. Clinton's acceptance speech — a shining moment for the Democratic nominee, who intended to use the televised address to stand and deliver himself and his vision to the nation.

Was Mr. Perot trying to help Democrats by praising the "revitalisation" of the party?

"If he was, with friends like this, we don't need enemies," said a delegate to the party's convention, wondering why Mr. Perot stole Mr. Clinton's thunder on his big day.

"This guy is a businessman," said another. "He knows when a deal is going to work and when it isn't and this one wasn't, and he got out. Simple as that."

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Bush immediately wooed the legion of loyal Perot supporters by telephoning their leader in Dallas.

The Democrat, in fact, interrupted the dress rehearsal of his speech at Madison Square Garden to call Mr. Perot. And Mr. Bush took a few moments from his fishing trip in Wyoming with Secretary of State James Baker.

"I congratulated him on the way he energised so many people in the political process," Mr. Bush said. "I told him that, of course, I would welcome his support — the support of those who got behind him."

Mr. Bush insisted that Mr. Perot backers would side with Republicans more than the Democrats.

Mr. Clinton shrugged his shoulders when asked right after the Perot stunner whether he would be helped by the decision.

But in his acceptance speech calling for a "new choice" and change after 12 years of Republican rule, Mr. Clinton appealed to millions of Perot supporters to join the Democratic fold.

"I am well aware that those who rallied to his cause wanted to enlist in an army of patriots for

change," he said. "We say to them: Join us, together we will revitalise America."

Polls are unclear as to who Perot supporters — a mixed legion of disgruntled Democrats, disillusioned Republicans and people generally sick of old politics and inaction in Washington — would eventually vote for, absent their hero.

Polls taken on Thursday as Mr. Clinton accepted his party's nomination showed support running his way.

A new poll by ABC news taken after Mr. Perot's withdrawal gave Mr. Clinton 58 per cent to 29 per cent for Mr. Bush.

But poll numbers can be fleeting. Just ask Michael Dukakis, the 1988 Democratic candidate, who led by 17 points during convention week and got thumped by Mr. Bush four months later.

With Mr. Perot gone, so too will be the Republicans' obsession with him, a focus that has given Mr. Clinton a free ride. Mr. Perot's absence also allows

the Republicans to return to their two-party strategy, one that has led them to victory in five of the last six presidential elections.

Mr. Bush has acknowledged as much, telling reporters:

"Clearly, a two-day race is more traditional in the sense of American politics, and I think in the final analysis, that I'll win this race."

The race, said Mr. Clinton opinion analyst Stan Greenberg, is now "a very clear choice" between the two men.

## Leftist woman minister raises Israeli rabbis' ire

By Marjorie Olster  
Reuters

JERUSALEM — Education Minister Shulamit Aloni, a firebrand champion of Palestinian rights and acerbic critic of religious politicians, has emerged as the most contentious figure in Israel's new government.

Leader of the left-wing Meretz alliance, Ms. Aloni has a reputation as a political maverick for her outspoken support of a Palestinian state alongside Israel.

"The Israeli public is ready to trade territories for peace. They have begun to understand they won't have personal security without a solution to the Palestinian problem," Ms. Aloni said.

A lawyer and a teacher by profession, Ms. Aloni made a name as a tough-talking advocate of Palestinian and women's rights.

Ariel Sharon, architect of Israel's 1982 Lebanon invasion, once branded Ms. Aloni a "traitor" for opposing the incursion.

Her appointment raised the ire of rabbis who view her as anti-religious. Two political parties went into opposition because of Ms. Aloni, dashing Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's bid to form a broader-based coalition.

"I am opposed to the conservative religious establishment which sees the woman as an object to be fruitful and multiply, which is xenophobic, which is afraid of progress, culture, science and even afraid to talk about evolu-

tion," Ms. Aloni, a 63-year-old grandmother, told Reuters in an interview.

"I have an argument with those who want to turn our state into a fundamentalist ghetto."

"The pattern of conflict has led to the militarisation of societies and economies throughout the Middle East, and to the acquisition of large conventional arsenals."

Ms. Aloni united her citizens rights movement with two other longtime opposition parties to form Meretz ahead of the June 23 election. It won 12 seats — making Meretz the third largest party after Labour and former Premier Yitzhak Rabin's Likud.

As Mr. Rabin's chief coalition partner, Ms. Aloni demanded the sensitive educational portfolio despite an outcry by rabbis.

She has even been singled out for scorn by Mr. Shamir in the final speech of his government

before parliament.

"She will excise all links to Jewish tradition from the school syllabus and all links between that tradition and the land of Israel. The concern expressed by wide circles is justified," Mr. Shamir said before Mr. Rabin's cabinet was voted in.

Rabbi Eliezer Schach, a 96-year-old sage who wields powerful clout over ultra-Orthodox parties, forbade his followers to join a coalition with Mr. Aloni two days before the parliamentary vote.

Religious politicians fear Ms. Aloni will slash funds for their schools and neglect religious studies in the state curriculum.

During coalition negotiations, Ms. Aloni demanded Mr. Rabin reduce draft deferments for Jewish seminary students, a sacred cow for the ultra-Orthodox parties. He promised to review the matter.

Ms. Aloni has fought for civil marriages in Israel where only religious ceremonies are recognised. She drew up marriage contracts for secular couples.

Ms. Aloni started in politics as an ombudsman for consumers frustrated by bureaucracy. She entered parliament for Labour in 1965. By 1969 she fell out with then-party leader Golda Meir.

In 1973 she formed the citizens rights movement which won three seats in a 1974 election. Now 19 years later, she has emerged from the fringe to lead a united leftist bloc to power.

## Baker resumes his peace shuttle

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian students being expelled to Jordan.

The siege of the Nablus university had turned into a test of Mr. Rabin's willingness to avert violent confrontation and negotiate with Palestinians.

Mr. Baker has set a rapid pace for his trip. He will be whisked to the meeting Mr. Rabin right after landing at Ben Gurion airport on Sunday, will meet separately with Palestinians and with Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres on Monday and then will go on to Arab countries.

His first stop there is Jordan for a meeting with His Majesty King Hussein. Mr. Baker has allotted only 4½ hours for his visit to

Amman.

Mr. Baker is spending nearly two full days in Israel, returning to the practice of previous secretaries of state of giving a larger proportion of their time in the area to meetings with Israeli leaders.

After Jordan, Mr. Baker flies to Damascus for a meeting Tuesday night with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, to Cairo on Wednesday for a report on Mr. Mubarak's summit with Mr. Rabin and to Jeddah to see King Fahd of Saudi Arabia Wednesday night. He also may arrange talks with Lebanese leaders.

Early next month Mr. Rabin is due to visit Mr. Bush at the president's vacation home in Maine.

## Rabin due in Cairo on Tuesday

(Continued from page 1)

improved after the freeze announcement.

"This is a serious step which will help to create the right atmosphere for holding this important meeting between Mubarak and Rabin," he added.

In Cairo, a government source said he believed Mr. Rabin wanted to base his drive for a final peace settlement on the Camp David Accords between Egypt and Israel, which provided not only for peace between the two countries but also a framework for Palestinian autonomy.

The Israeli prime minister wanted Mr. Mubarak to explain exactly how Egypt viewed the agreement and explore what role Egypt wanted to play in the new peace negotiations.

"Rabin wants to build on Camp David and the peace with Egypt. He wants to know where Egypt stands because he is obviously not satisfied with Egypt

saying its role is (just) to support the Arab parties and put its experience at their disposal," the source said.

Mr. Rabin told Israel Television last Wednesday: "We must utilise elements that can help the negotiations. I think the United States has a role and I hope the Egyptians can help as well."

Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have refused to believe — at least in public — that Mr. Rabin's Labour-led government will be any different from Yitzhak Shamir's Likud.

Arab diplomats say Syrians are worried that Mr. Rabin's focus on an autonomy agreement with the Palestinians will lower their chances of recovering the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

An Egyptian official said Syria had invited Jordan, the PLO, Lebanon, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Morocco to talks at foreign-minister level in Damascus on Friday to discuss the peace process.

## Iraq digs in its heels in stand-off

(Continued from page 1)

left open the implied threat of renewed military action, but a senior U.S. official told Reuters such action was not expected.

Both departments described the United States as "very determined" that Iraq give U.N. inspectors unimpeded access to the ministry.

"We're obviously very concerned about the Iraqi behaviour, very determined that Iraq meets its international obligations," under the Security Council resolution that ended the war 17 months ago, a department spokesman, Bob Hall, told reporters.

"Right now we're in the process of consulting with other nations about what steps might be taken to make sure that they fulfil those obligations," he said.

The Bush administration has begun discussions with Britain and France on what military steps might be taken if Iraq fails to let the U.N. inspection go ahead, sources at the United Nations in New York said.

Mr. Hall and State Department spokesman Richard Boucher declined to discuss options that might be under review. But a senior U.S. official, asked if the coalition might again go to war, told Reuters: "No."

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## Sarajevo quieter but scepticism about truce agreement persists

SARAJEVO (R) — The Bosnian capital Sarajevo was quieter overnight but residents were sceptical that Friday's truce agreed by factional leaders at talks in London would lead to a genuine ceasefire.

"The night was quieter than most this week. There were more exchanges and small arms fire but nothing as heavy as we were getting used to," said Zoran Babic, a Sarajevo Radio editor.

"There has been a reduction in fighting, but it still persists. So it's too early to talk about a ceasefire, in which all want to believe in, but few really do."

The truce, agreed after days of EC-brokered talks in London, will take effect from 6 p.m. (1600 GMT) Sunday.

Describing the overnight exchanges, U.N. spokesman Mik Magnusson said: "A little noisy, but not too bad."

The central old town and the heavily contested Dobrinja district came under several mortar attacks, Mr. Babic said.

There was sporadic small arms and automatic weapons fire in the centre of new Sarajevo, a modern residential complex most of which was completed for the 1984 Winter Olympic Games.

The last shots were heard at 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) in the city centre near the line separating the warring forces.

Bosnia's President Alija Izetbegovic expressed doubts that Serbian forces would honour the pact.

"Karadzic has talked many times about a ceasefire and he didn't respect one, ever," Mr. Izetbegovic said, referring to the leader of Serbs in Bosnia, Radovan Karadzic, one of three men who signed the agreement Friday.

The fighting has pitted Serbs opposed to the secession of Bosnia from the former Yugoslavia against pro-independence Bosnians, mostly Muslims and Croats. Since the war began in April, at least 7,500 people have been killed.

One of the key clauses of the agreement said the warring parties would place heavy weapons, from combat aircraft and tanks to mortars, under international supervision and would ask the U.N. Security Council to make the necessary arrangements.

In theory, such supervision already exists around Sarajevo, but U.N. officers here have accused both sides of hiding their hardware and cheating on a previous agreement.

The danger of U.N. operations in the Balkan region was thrown into sharp focus Friday when two French members of the U.N. protection force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia were killed in a mine blast on the Adriatic coast.

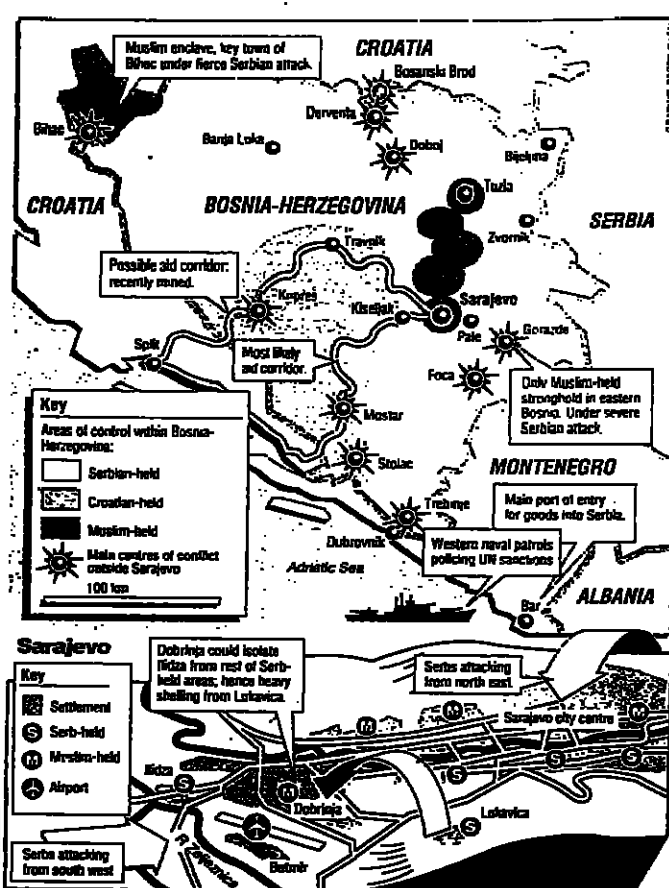
Captain Jean-Pierre Llienas and a Corporal Capo were killed when their jeep ran over a mine of the southern end of the Zemunik in Zadar, a duty officer at the Croatian Military Command at the airport told Reuters.

They were the first to die in a military incident since the U.N. began peacekeeping operations in what used to be Yugoslavia. Two Argentines and three Frenchmen have been killed in traffic accidents.

Fighting in Croatia ceased months ago and a 14,000-strong U.N. peacekeeping force has been deployed in the newly-independent republic to keep the peace between Serbs and Croats.

Meanwhile, Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic, who said he hoped to go to Sarajevo soon to build on the truce accord, met British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd Saturday to discuss ways to end Bosnia's civil war.

On his return to Belgrade Friday evening from visits to Rome and Paris, Mr. Panic expressed "exceptional optimism" after talks



with Italian Foreign Minister Vincenzo Scotti and French President Francois Mitterrand.

He said both had granted him the 100 days grace he asked for to implement his ambitious plan of establishing lasting peace in Bosnia and meeting conditions to have stringent U.N. sanctions against Belgrade lifted.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd met Mr. Panic Saturday for talks on how to end Bosnia's civil war.

Mr. Panic greeted Mr. Hurd at his Belgrade apartment in typical fashion.

"I think with your group we can stop the war," he joked after

he was introduced to a seemingly endless number of officials in the foreign secretary's entourage.

Mr. Hurd, on the third day of a fact-finding tour of Yugoslavia and all four breakaway republics, arrived in Belgrade Friday after a brief visit to the besieged Bosnian capital Sarajevo for a first-hand look at the conflict.

Mr. Panic told Mr. Hurd: "I think our problems are so obvious ... the more obvious the problem the easier it is to solve it. 'They're shooting. We just have to tell them not to shoot.'"

Mr. Hurd said he was encouraged by the ceasefire agreement signed in London Friday.

## 78 to be charged in S. Africa massacre

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Police said that 78 people will be charged in a township massacre that derailed political talks and sparked U.N. involvement in South Africa's conflict.

The suspects are residents of a workers' hostel reputed to be a stronghold of the Inkatha Freedom Party, National Police Commissioner Gen. Johan Van Der Merwe said in a brief statement. He said they face charges of murder or public violence and are expected to appear in court Monday.

At least 42 blacks were killed in the Boipatong massacre on June 17, which led the African National Congress to break off talks with the government on political reforms. The ANC blamed the killings on government inaction to violence and charged police aided the killers.

The 78 suspects were rounded up shortly after the killings for questioning and will remain in custody, police said.

The announcement came a day after the U.N. Security Council agreed to send a special envoy to South Africa to try to revive the ANC-government talks.

The ANC favours international involvement but said it would pursue its own campaign of strikes and other mass action to galvanise opposition to the government, including the occupation of government buildings.

Unveiling new details of the plan Friday, the ANC reiterated plans for a nationwide strike starting Aug. 3 and lasting through the week.

An employers' group has been meeting with ANC allies to try to prevent the strike, and the statement said the outcome of these talks could lead to the strike being scaled back.

In the campaign's final phase, offices, factories and government buildings would be occupied, including the government headquarters in Pretoria, and ANC President Nelson Mandela would be named head of state, it said.

ANC officials stressed the occupations and Mr. Mandela's appointment would be "symbolic" and not achieved through force.

Pallo Jordan, an ANC spokesman, said while the group welcomed the U.N. move it did not mean the immediate resumption of negotiations. That won't happen until the government satisfactorily addresses ANC demands to end political violence and speed up the transition to multiracial democracy, he said.

There was no immediate ANC reaction to the police statement. The current stalemate marks South Africa's worst political crisis since President F.W. de Klerk legalised the ANC in 1990 and began talks to end white-minority rule.

More than 12,000 blacks have died in political violence since 1984, 8,000 of them since Mr. De Klerk came to power three years ago.

The ANC blames government security forces for the violence, saying they instigate clashes to undermine the ANC and bolster Inkatha. The government says most clashes are due to a war between Inkatha and ANC supporters, and it denies involvement.

Former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will head a U.N. mission to South Africa to try to end the political crisis and violence, U.N. officials announced Friday.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### 7 killed in Moldova shelling

KISHINEV, Moldova (R) — At least seven people were killed in overnight shelling in Moldova, threatening a shaky ceasefire between government forces and ethnic Russian rebels in the former Soviet republic's Eastern Dniestr region. Moldovan Defence Ministry spokesman Georgy Monteanu said Saturday a renegade force opposed to the ceasefire had shelled a police station in the Dniestr town of Bendery, killing four Moldovan policemen and wounding 24. But a spokesman for the Dniestr region, who said three of its guards were also killed and many people wounded in the bombing, dismissed the idea that renegades had been responsible. Several hundred people have been killed since March in fierce clashes between the two sides. The Russian-speaking secessionists, who have already declared independence, fear possible unification with Romania could turn them into second-class citizens.

### Rutskoi: Kozyrev should go

MOSCOW (R) — Russian Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi has called for the resignation of Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, accusing him of spreading rumours of a new right-wing coup. Interfax News Agency reported. Mr. Rutskoi, deputy to President Boris Yeltsin, told a political meeting in Moscow that there had been too many recent rumours of a new coup. "Even people occupying such posts as foreign minister are talking about this," the agency quoted him as saying. "I think such people should not stay in their posts." Opposition to the 40-year-old foreign minister is growing and there is increasing speculation in Moscow that he will be replaced in the near future.

### Vietnamese angry over MIA issue

HANOI (R) — Vietnamese are angry at the attention paid to U.S. servicemen missing since the Vietnam War while little is said of hundreds of thousands of local people who are also missing, a Hanoi official said. Vu Mao, a National Assembly deputy and senior member of the Communist Party, told a news conference that voters in Hanoi recently criticised him for allowing U.S. politicians to exploit the issue and to maintain an embargo against Vietnam. He said families in his Hanoi constituency had 100 relatives missing since the war. The government estimates there are 300,000 missing Vietnamese across the country. "Voters" asked why it was that tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese are missing, not to mention the millions killed, he said. "They want to know why our national assembly and its deputies never mention this while the U.S. Congress ferociously debates this issue and stirs up U.S. public opinion to fuel hostility against Vietnam, to continue the embargo against Vietnam," he said. His comments followed Vietnam's expulsion last Friday of two American experts taking part in a joint search in Quang Binh province for remains of or clues to missing U.S. servicemen.

### 18 killed in Peru car bomb attacks

LIMA (AP) — Two huge car bombs blamed on leftist rebels tore apart a wealthy residential neighbourhood, destroying buildings in a shower of shattered glass and metal. Police said Friday at least 18 people died and 100 were injured. The blasts were the most gruesome episode in the current wave of rebel violence in the Lima area. In the past 24 hours, two other car bombs exploded at police stations. Four policemen were reported wounded. Police said there were about six other incidents overnight, most of them involving dynamite attacks on banks, gasoline stations and power pylons. Police originally believed there were more attacks because of the widespread damage caused by the first car bomb. No one claimed responsibility for the attacks, but police suspected they were the work of the Maoist Shining Path. Crews searched for bodies Friday among the rubble in the fashionable Miraflores neighbourhood. The corpses were wrapped in bloodstained cloth and piled together. Severed hands and feet were lying in the street.

### Colombian volcano explodes

BOGOTA, Colombia (R) — A Colombian volcano spewed ash and stones high into the air, breaking windows and causing alarm in nearby villages, officials said. The long-dormant Galeras Volcano, 500 kilometres southwest of Bogota close to the border with Ecuador, became active in 1989 and has several times emitted ash and gas, raising fears of an eruption. Officials said the volcano exploded hurling small stones and ashes five kilometres into the air. "It was an explosion of a medium degree," Alvaro Saramea, governor of the southwestern province of Narino, where the volcano is located, told local RCN Radio. But he said life in the nearby town of Pasto was normal and there were no injuries or damage.

### Angolan elections set for Sept. 29-30

LUANDA, Angola (AP) — Angola will hold its first multi-party elections for president and parliament on Sept. 29-30, President Eduardo dos Santos said in a statement broadcast on state radio. Former rebel leader Jonas Savimbi is expected to challenge Mr. Santos. The elections for president and national legislators are required under a peace treaty signed by Mr. Santos and Mr. Savimbi in May 1991 ending 16 years of civil war. The president will be elected for a five-year term, while the 223 legislators will serve four years. Three of the deputies will be chosen by the 1.5 million Angolans living abroad, mostly in Portugal, Brazil and Zaire. Savimbi had accused Mr. Santos' government of planning to delay the election, while Mr. Santos accused his former adversary of plotting to seize power by force. At least five people were killed in a gun battle between the two factions last week.

## COLUMN

### Northern Exposure picks up 16 Emmy nominations

LOS ANGELES (R) — The nominations for U.S. television's equivalent of Hollywood's Oscars were announced and a CBS-TV programme about life in an Alaskan hamlet swept the nominations. Northern Exposure, a dramatic series, was nominated for 16 Emmy Awards — more than any other U.S. television show. British actress Angela Lansbury was nominated in the outstanding actress in a drama series category for her leading role as the mystery novelist who never fails to help various bumbling detectives solve crimes in the CBS-TV show Murder, She Wrote. This is her 13th nomination and she has yet to win an Emmy. While NBC Television lead the networks with 100 nominations, the day clearly belonged to Northern Exposure as the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences announced the nominees. The series was nominated for numerous technical awards and four of its featured players were also nominated for their roles.

### Cuban daily has sweeter paper

HAVANA (R) — Readers in Havana noticed a new feel to Cuba's official newspaper Granma. Because of shortages of newsprint the state publishers produced an experimental edition of Granma in paper made from dried sugar cane pulp known as "bagasse". The pages were noticeably coarser and darker. Granma said the sugar cane pulp edition was being printed as an experiment in Havana and surrounding provinces. The new paper was being produced at the Cuba-9 Pulp Factory outside the capital. Cuba used to import newsprint from the former Soviet Union, but supplies collapsed following the break-up of the Soviet state and the Communist-ruled island was forced to cut back sharply the circulation of newspapers, periodicals and books.

### Menem donates organs for transplant

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine President Carlos Menem has announced he had decided to donate all his organs for transplant upon his death. The high-living president, who at 62 still plays soccer and loves to drive fast cars, said he was bequeathing his body "as an act of love" and an example for others to follow. "I want many Argentines and many people in the world who are constantly talking about love to help humanity in this way," he told a reporter from the private Radio Mitre station. Mr. Menem said he was moved to donate his organs by the case of a young Argentine mother who recently gave part of her liver to her terminally ill two-year-old daughter. To allow her mother to undergo the publicised operation, Mr. Menem signed special legislation allowing organ transplants from live donors.

### U.S. police solve mystery of kissing couple

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Police believe they have solved the mystery of the kissing couple and the empty parking metres. Police said they videotaped a couple walking along a street and appearing to embrace passionately every few yards when in fact the man was busy cleaning the coins out of parking metres. Donald Simmons, 33, of Metairie and Cheryl Collins, 38, of Metairie were arrested Sunday night and booked with theft. Charges were pending. "They embraced and the metre seemed to disappear between them. Then they walked to the next metre," said Police Lt. Frank Ben. After opening the metre with a key, Simmons, described as a skilled locksmith, slipped the money to the woman, who slipped it into a bag strapped to her body under her skirt, police said. It took about 12 seconds to empty each set of double metres, Lt. Ben said. A search of the woman after their arrest Sunday turned up \$400 in marked quarters that had been planted in the metres, but police think the total could be far higher. Lt. Ben said. Financial records at Mr. Simmons' home indicated he might have stolen up to \$150,000 in a year's time. And Mr. Simmons "admitted he had been doing it since 1985," Lt. Ben said. If the thefts were at the rate of \$150,000 a year, the take in seven years would be 1 million. Mr. Simmons has a workshop at home with tools for making keys and a parking metre apparently used to make a pattern for a key that fit it, police said.

## Landmark arms treaty goes into effect

BRUSSELS (AP) — A historic accord for deep cuts in stockpiles of tanks and other non-nuclear arms in Europe took effect, as Canadian experts arrived in Russia for the first weapons inspection under the pact.

The conventional armed forces in Europe (CFE) treaty was provisionally implemented for 120 days, nearly two years after it was signed by NATO and its former Warsaw Pact enemies.

The agreement must still be ratified by the legislatures of Belarus and Armenia, former Soviet republics, before it becomes legally binding. Both have promised approval.

Soon after the accord went into effect, a team of Canadian experts arrived in Russia and immediately set off for an unidentified site to carry out the first inspection allowed under the agreement, Canadian officials said.

For the next four months, the 29 nations signing the accord will be allowed to visit each other's military bases, depots and other sites to inspect and verify the list of weapons drawn up by every government.

From those inventories, nations will make reductions over the next 40 months in main battle tanks, artillery, armoured combat vehicles, attack helicopters and combat aircraft.

The CFE treaty was first signed in November 1990 by the 16 nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the six of the former Warsaw Pact, the Eastern military alliance.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Western nations feared the accord would never take effect. The Kremlin had signed the pact but never ratified it. At the urging of the West, Russia and seven other former

Soviet republics agreed to abide by the treaty's terms, and divided up the weapons cuts negotiated by the Kremlin.

The newly-independent nations will have to scrap tens of thousands of tanks, artillery pieces and other hardware stockpiled by the one-time superpower during the cold war. Russia will hold on to most of the remaining arms.

Each side — NATO and the Warsaw Pact nations — must reduce to and equal ceiling of 20,000 tanks in an area stretching from the Atlantic coast to the Ural Mountains, deep in former Soviet territory.

The nations recently negotiated an accompanying accord that set national troop ceilings in Europe. It covers all and-based forces, including armies, air forces and reservists called up for more than 90 days.

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## Sikh man connected to airliner bombing arrested

BOMBAY (R) — Indian police have arrested a Sikh man in connection with the bombing of an Air India Boeing 747 which exploded off the coast of Ireland in 1985 killing all 329 people aboard, a senior police official said Saturday.

Bombay Police Commissioner S. Ramamurthy told Reuters that Manjit Singh, alias Lal Singh, was overpowered Thursday by an anti-terrorist squad which had been tipped he would be arriving by train in Bombay from the northern state of Punjab.

Mr. Ramamurthy said Mr. Singh would be arraigned in court later Saturday.

He said the anti-terrorist squad prevented Mr. Singh from biting into a lethal cyanide pill — a device militants often use to avoid police interrogation.

Mr. Ramamurthy said the 30-year-old, self-styled lieutenant-general of the Khalistan Liberation Force was also wanted on charges of smuggling arms to insurgency-ridden Punjab from neighbouring Pakistan.

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